

Train driver shot dead chasing man after Tube bomb blast

of a London Underground train was shot dead by a gunman after a bomb had exploded in his carriage yesterday evening's rush hour. Last night he was guarding two men in hospital; one had been

injured in the explosion and the other was believed to have shot himself. Nine other passengers were also treated in hospital after the blast, which wrecked the front carriage of the train about 150 yards from West Ham station.

Armed detectives guard two in hospital

Two men are being guarded by armed police in hospital after a bomb exploded in a London Underground train yesterday evening. The train was carrying about 100 passengers at the time of the explosion. One man was killed and nine others were injured.

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The damaged Underground train after yesterday's explosion at West Ham.

on a wider scale than before. The group said in a statement: "We now issue a solemn warning to the British public. You have given the IRA the label of terrorist, and you have allowed our comrades to suffer and die in the six countries and in your British prisons... now we will act as terrorists."

The threat is believed to be connected with the bomb made in the Dublin Special Criminal Court last week by Eddie Gallagher before he was sentenced for kidnapping Dr Herrema. He urged his small group of Republican supporters to launch an immediate terror campaign in England.

Yesterday's attack on the Tube train was the third in a growing pattern, long feared by security authorities, of bombings against commuters. On February 13 a 20 lb bomb found in a small case at Oxford Circus Underground station was defused. On March 4 a bomb of about 10 lb exploded in an empty train near Cannon Street station, injuring eight people in a passing train.

The sequence of events at West Ham station was still confused last night, but it seemed that passengers in the front compartment of the train became suspicious of a bag being carried by one of two men. It is believed that the passenger pulled the alarm cord, thus alerting the driver, who left the train to give chase.

Union chiefs unite to end Labour division

By Paul Rowlings, Labour Editor

Britain's top three union leaders yesterday took political differences and issued an unprecedented public appeal for united support for Mr Wilson. They did so on the ground that "forces opposing Labour are regrouping and are now clearly preparing for an early general election."

Mr Jack Jones, the Transport and General Workers' Union leader, Mr Hugh Scanton, of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, and Mr David Basset, of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, called for emergency talks with ministers and Labour Party leaders immediately after the Budget to write what amounts to a new election manifesto.

Mr Healey rejects French blame for retreat of the franc

From Michael Horsby in Brussels and Melvyn Westlake in London

World currency markets were thrown into disarray at first yesterday in the wake of the pre-dawn decision by the French to withdraw from the European currency block for the second time in 26 months.

The large sterling balances held round the world meant that the pound's behaviour had a disproportionate impact on other currencies, and this was a matter which needed further examination, Mr Fourcade said.

On the markets there was a growing fear that the French move might be the prelude to a complete disintegration of the European currency block. Two other participants were obliged to reaffirm their intention of remaining within the European currency block, popularly known as the snake.

The West German Federal Bank was yesterday forced to provide an estimated 500m marks of support for the weaker snake currencies as renewed pressure developed against them.

Mr Healey told his EEC colleagues at his meeting in Brussels yesterday that the forces which had caused sterling to depreciate by about 5 per cent in the last one and a half weeks were the same as those which had dislodged the franc.

However, in banking circles it was suggested that the industrialized world was now witnessing a long-overdue re-examination of the monetary system. When the foreign exchanges opened yesterday the French franc promptly suffered a de facto devaluation of about 51 per cent against the mark and 43 per cent against the dollar, but by the close of trading this had been trimmed to 31 and 21 per cent respectively.

100 Syrian troops in Lebanon

March 15—President

ranjha finally bowed to military and political pressure and offered to resign. He said he was resigning as a result of the Arab diplomatic pressure that at least 1,000 troops had entered the guise of Palestinian Army (PLA).

former minister and a relative of the late President Charles Helou. Other possible candidates are Mr Jean Aziz, a former minister who once ran unsuccessfully for the presidency, and Mr Elias Sarkis, the governor of the Lebanese central bank for the past eight years.

Sir Richard Marsh to quit as rail chairman in September

By Maurice Corbin, Industrial Editor

A polite but somewhat short interview yesterday between Sir Richard Marsh, chairman of British Rail, and his former political colleague, Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, ended with the 22,330-a-year railways chief giving notice that he will resign in September.

The action came after Mr Crosland, for the Government, was unable to give Sir Richard any clear statement about his future, a time when an important statement on transport policy is being prepared. Later there was an official exchange of letters (see page 2) confirming Sir Richard's decision, with Mr Crosland releasing a cool reply to the railways chairman's criticisms of what he called a "total lack of clarity of the board's objectives" and a lack of consistency in the Government.

Last night Sir Richard hit out against the treatment by government of nationalised industries, board members and cited his experience with British Rail as an exercise in frustration and interference. The ideal state industry chairman, he said, would be the Archangel Gabriel.

Although claiming not to be disillusioned, he now intends, after completing his appointment, to seek employment outside the public sector. He will not reenter politics.

Originally appointed by a Conservative Government, Sir Richard, who was 48 on Sunday, has now agreed that the Government's handling of the railways will come under the full public scrutiny. Trade union leaders are bitter over what they described as "senseless" cuts on future investment and ever-rising prices.

Sir Richard explained that there had been mounting speculation over his future and it was sensible to seek clarification. The Government was planning a new policy statement, but he had not seen any consultative papers in spite of his position.

If fundamental changes were made then it would be necessary to have someone new as chairman. If there were no changes, then he would not be happy to continue, anyway.

Full official review of Ulster economy

A wide-ranging review of Northern Ireland's economy is to be carried out by the Government in a few weeks, Mr Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said.

It is likely to lead to changes in Ulster's industrial base and in the amount of public money paid annually from the Exchequer. In addition, a ministerial committee is preparing a report which will lead to new security legislation, with the aim of increasing the role of the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Denial of massacres

Rhodesian troops have not massacred African villagers as has been alleged, according to a West German missionary stationed in the operational area north of Mount Darwin. "We would have heard about it," he said.

Mr Jimmy Carter, former governor of Georgia, is now the favorite to win today's Democratic presidential primary in Illinois. His fortunes were helped by a Gallup Poll which showed he could defeat President Ford.

West Bank clashes

Israeli security forces imposed an indefinite curfew in Ramallah, near Jerusalem, after the worst day of rioting in the occupied West Bank since Arab unrest began a week ago. Dozens of students were arrested by troops after violent clashes.

Child crime film

The British Film Institute governors will decide today the future of a film on child crime after the police objected to a public showing.

Leipzig walkout

The entire Bonn delegation left the Leipzig Spring Fair because East Germany refused visas to West German journalists.

Mr Thorpe to learn MPs' verdict today

Mr Thorpe, leader of the Liberal Party, will learn today the result of soundings taken among the party's MPs by Mr Alan Bethel, the chief whip, to establish whether there is still majority support for his leadership.

Tass attacks 'Times'

Tass, the Soviet news agency, has condemned The Times for giving "sensational treatment" to Nato study which said that Warsaw Pact forces could reach the Rhine within 48 hours.

'Blighted' children

More than a million children of one-parent families face "blighted futures," the National Children's Bureau says in two new studies.

Illinois favourite

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Leyland Cars hit by two strikes

A strike by 700 Leyland engineers has stopped all work on the company's new model programme and is threatening investment in the new plant, due to begin production in the summer. A further strike by 400 toolroom workers has halted Land Rover and Range Rover output.

On other pages

Features, pages 9 and 14
Governing the dangerous options involved in the Liberal leadership struggle: Bernard Levin offers a who's who of candidates in the engineers' election; Ronald Kenworthy on the angry men of the Iceland patrol

Leadership, page 15
Letters: On Third World and Russia, from Mr N. A. J. Philpot and others; on Tribune, from Mr R. D. Roebuck

Leading articles: Currents; Nato's defences Arts, page 8

Paul Overy on "simultaneous" art; William Mann on the LPO under Lord (Festiva) Hall; Alan Bligh on Sound by Fate (Radio 3); Max Harrison on La Salle Quartet

Obituary, page 16
Mr Busby Berkeley: Professor C. T. Carr

Diary, page 16
H. Simplicesvark analyses the form of the contestants for the Liberal leadership

Sport, pages 10-11
Racing: Michael Phillips writes on today's races; Rugby: Peter West on England team changes and John Player Cup draw; Football: More problems for Revie with injuries

Business News, pages 17-22
Stock markets: Equities made a quiet start as the pound and the FT index closed at 410.2, up by 0.2

Financial Editor: A lacklustre look at Rugby Portland; more information from Hoover; help for Fitzwilliam's balance sheet

Business features: David Blake looks at the way in which economic pressures have overridden political considerations in forcing France out of the European currency "snake"

Business Diary: Trinity House does not plan to be the man overboard; Calculator game-manship

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ADVERTISEMENT

Planning ahead

These are difficult times for firms operating in Britain. The country's economic situation is serious. Many firms have had to close down and unemployment figures are reaching new peaks. Press reports cast gloom and despondency. A Department of Industry survey in 1975 suggested that investment in manufacturing and in the distribution and service industries will fall again this year. Things look bleak indeed.

If you are in business and occupying offices in London, consider for a moment your situation when there is an upturn in the economy. That same Department of Industry survey predicts improvements by 1977, with a large increase in manufacturing investment. But 1977 is next year! Will your firm be ready to cope with the changed situation? It doesn't give you much time to prepare. Could you expand in your present accommodation? Can you afford to go on paying rent and rates as high as those in London?

So what do you do? Make a point of visiting the Northampton Centre for Town Planning at The London Press Centre, Shoe Lane off Fleet Street, Northampton is coming to town to provide you with information about the substantial economies that can result if you move your office to Northampton. Firms moving from Central London can save up to 80% of their rent and rates, so it's worth thinking about moving the bulk of your activities even if you keep a small headquarters office in the capital.

Now is the time to consider your firm's future. A nationwide survey in January 1975 edition of "Estates Gazette" on The Office Market 1975 showed that development activity had come to an almost complete standstill; it would not be long before there was a nationwide shortage of new office space and rents would start to move up rapidly. This gives firm warning that firms should, if they are wise, plan for the future now.

There are other gains to be made by moving your office to Northampton, a town which is expanding by the mid 1980's from its present population of 150,000 to 240,000. Your staff would be free from the cost and strain of daily commuting. Private houses cost less and there is a wide range of rented homes available from the Development Corporation. A special staff recruitment system, available from new and existing towns, operates in addition to the normal avenues of recruitment. Although Northampton is designated a new town, it is also a town with a long history. It has well established social services, education and entertainment facilities and many acres of beautiful parkland. The old and the new together, Northampton has good communications: right next to the M1 motorway, it is little more than an hour from London by road. Several new prestige offices are immediately available in the town centre and all are capable of subdivision. They include Greyfriars House, an office of 200,000 sq. ft. on three floors above the new bus station; Belgrave House, 85,000 sq. ft. forming part of the new Grosvenor Centre; Riverside House, a block of 55,000 sq. ft. within a hundred yards of the River Nene; and a Scottish style House, 19,900 sq. ft. forming part of the new town centre. The old and the new together, Northampton has good communications: right next to the M1 motorway, it is little more than an hour from London by road. Several new prestige offices are immediately available in the town centre and all are capable of subdivision. They include Greyfriars House, an office of 200,000 sq. ft. on three floors above the new bus station; Belgrave House, 85,000 sq. ft. forming part of the new Grosvenor Centre; Riverside House, a block of 55,000 sq. ft. within a hundred yards of the River Nene; and a Scottish style House, 19,900 sq. ft. forming part of the new town centre.

If we've stirred your interest, why not come along and see for yourself the opportunities that Northampton can offer. Come and discuss your particular circumstances, even if you're not contemplating an immediate move. There is no admission charge and you don't need a ticket. See you there?

Northampton comes to Town from Tuesday 16 to Friday 19 March, at The London Press Centre, Shoe Lane, London EC4. (Exhibition entrance is via Sir Street Square). See a link between the underground stations Chancery Lane and Blackfriars.

Times of opening: 09.30 to 18.00 Tuesday to Thursday 09.30 to 12.00 Friday.

North Starfighter lost

urg, West Germany, 15—The West German air force today lost its 17th North Starfighter. It crashed in the North Sea during a training flight. The pilot successfully ejected and was rescued by a helicopter.

HOME NEWS

Government review of Ulster's future will put emphasis on economy and role of police

From Christopher Walker Belfast

In its first major policy statement since the collapse of the Northern Ireland Convention, the Government announced yesterday that a wide-ranging review of Ulster's troubled economy would be launched in a few weeks.

It will be the first conducted in Northern Ireland since 1971. It is likely to lead to important changes in the province's industrial base and in the amount of public money paid annually in the form of a subvention from the national Exchequer.

In addition a ministerial committee investigating long-term security policy is preparing a report which will lead to legislation being introduced at Westminster in May. That will be geared to increasing the importance of the role played by the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Both plans were broadly outlined in a statement issued yesterday by Mr Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. He is plainly anxious to allay the widely held fears among local politicians that indefinite direct rule will be a negative process. Although the meetings of the

security committee, held regularly since mid-January, have been secret, it is understood that the legislation will cover the size of the RUC, its internal structure, and the future size of British troop involvement in Northern Ireland.

The number of British soldiers totals just over 14,000, but the Government hopes that can be reduced by the end of the year. No indication has yet been given of how Mr Rees plans to cope with the key question of policing republican areas where the RUC is unable to operate.

Details of the economic review will be made public later this week. It is likely to be headed by a top-level expert from outside the province.

"The basic aim," Mr Rees explained, "must be to ensure that the full potential of public and private enterprise is organized in such a way as to bring about the maximum benefit in terms of industrial activity and employment over the next few years."

The review will concentrate on ways of coping with the run-down of Ulster's two basic industries, shipbuilding and textiles, which has led to a high level of unemployment. The

Government is anxious to find ways of encouraging more local light industry in contrast with the present heavy reliance on the vulnerable branches of multinational companies.

Ministers acknowledge privately that there will be no quick end to the recession and there is concern about difficulties encountered in recent drives to win more investment from the United States and big British companies.

Yesterday's statement indicated clearly that the Government will be concentrating on the role of the police and the early months of its new style of direct rule. It was seen in Belfast political circles as a further attempt to convince the many sceptics that the British are not involved in a subtle process of economic withdrawal.

"I want no one to be in any doubt as to the intentions of the Government in relation to the administration of Northern Ireland," Mr Rees said. "We are determined that everything possible will be done to minimize the hardship in the short term and to bring about real and lasting improvements in the long term."

Three more arrests in Herrema kidnap case

Police in the Irish Republic yesterday arrested three more people in connexion with the Herrema kidnaping.

The arrests came four days after the Special Criminal Court at Dublin sentenced five people to a total of 51 years imprisonment for involvement in the affair.

Last night one of the three appeared in the special court. Thomas Anthony Dunne, aged 22, a builder's labourer of Clonsilla, co. Lough, faced three charges: unlawfully imprisoning Dr Herrema, attempting to obstruct by intimidation the carrying out of the executive branch of government, and maliciously setting fire to two police stations in the Irish Republic last August.

He was remanded in custody until March 29 after Dr Sergeant Philip O'Keefe said there were fears he would not stand trial if given bail. He said police had been searching for Dunne since last October, when he disappeared after being interviewed.

He was arrested yesterday in the Marino district of Dublin. The two other men arrested in Dublin yesterday are expected to appear in court today.

A total of 10 people have so far been charged in connexion with the Herrema affair: the five sentenced last week, two married couples due to appear at a separate trial next month, and Mr Dunne.

In the case that ended last week Eddie Gallagher and Marian Coyle received sentences of 20 years and 15 years respectively. Two men from co. Offaly were jailed for eight years each and another man was given a three-year suspended term.

The association felt the patients, rather than nurses, needed greater protection under the law. Nurses had "excessively wide" protection under section 141 of the Mental Health Act, especially in the light of the House of Lords ruling last year in the Pountney case, it said.

Section 141 said that any person acting in pursuance of his duties under the Act could not be prosecuted except by leave of the High Court. In practice that leave was difficult to obtain, the association said.

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Guidelines on mental patients 'fair'

By a Staff Reporter

The National Association for Mental Health (Mind) yesterday welcomed the Government guidelines to health authorities on the management of potentially violent patients as being fair both to nurses and patients.

It called on the Confederation of Health Service Employees (Cohse) to give detailed reasons why it had decided to ignore the guidelines.

But the association said it agreed with Cohse that it should have been consulted in the drawing up of the guidelines, especially since its members were affected more than any other group involved. All hospital staff should be allowed to participate much more in decision-making.

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Two killed in train and lorry collision

From Our Correspondent Carlisle

A train driver and a lorry driver were killed early yesterday when a London to Scotland express ran into an articulated lorry which had crashed through a bridge parapet 50ft on to the line below.

The train driver was Mr Joseph Randolph Scott, aged 56, of Broom Court, Harbury, Carlisle.

The accident happened at Dornock Bridge near Annan, Dumfriesshire. The bridge carries the A75 Stranraer to Gairloch road over the Glasgow-Carlisle railway line.

Just after the lorry, which had crossed on to the railway line, the Euston-Stranraer boat train ploughed into the wreckage, killing the two men and pushing the wreckage before it.

Mr John Farrer, the second man, brought the train to a halt 500 yards beyond the bridge, although he was badly hurt. Mr Farrer, aged 38, of Greystone Road, Carlisle, was taken to hospital.

The 10-coach train was carrying only 22 passengers. None was hurt, but they later continued their journey. The line

was blocked for most of the day. Another lorry, thought to be travelling with the one that left

the bridge, was involved in an accident six miles away at about the same time.

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Police seek ban on shots of seven-year-old boy being questioned in cell

Future of juvenile crime film is in doubt

By Penny Symon

The future of a controversial documentary film about the police's juvenile liaison scheme will be decided today by the governors of the British Film Institute which provided £15,000 for two young film makers, Mr Nicholas Broomfield and Miss Joan Churchill, to make the film in Blackburn, Lancashire.

They had cooperation from police involved in the scheme. It enables officers to caution juvenile offenders who are aged seven or eight, rather than taking them to court. The aim is to deliver an early shock in the hope of preventing more serious trouble later.

But the police are now trying to stop the film from being shown. The makers have asked the police for the film from Thames Television and other distributors but so far it has been shown publicly only

at the London Film Festival last September. An attempt was made then by Chief Supt Joseph Mounsey, of the Lancashire CID, to stop it.

The scenes which are bound to cause controversy concern a seven-year-old boy said to have stolen a cowboy suit and peas from a shop. The film shows him being taken to a police station by his father, who is told at his school by the policeman: "It depends on what you tell me as to whether you go home or not."

Eventually the boy is taken to a small cell at the police station and a disturbing dialogue takes place. The policeman points out that it is not there, there are bars at the window, no television or comics and asks the boy whether he gets frightened in the dark. The boy says that he does and the policeman says it gets dark in

the cell and there would be nobody to call.

Later in the film the policeman, says that treatment would be used only as a last resort and he would not be allowed to lock the child in. But sometimes he does so for a few minutes and keeps an eye on him through the peephole.

It is done, he says, with the cooperation of the parents to show the child that threats can be put into practice. It terrifies them to some extent and in several cases works.

Mr Broomfield said yesterday: "All the families in the film were given the opportunity to tell us if they objected to its possible showing on television and we honoured the wishes of the one or two who did." Undertakings were also given not to show the film in the Blackburn area.

The film will be shown to

MPs at the House of Commons tomorrow night and Mr Robert Killick-Skill, Labour MP for Orkney, has said that he intends to put down questions to Mr Jenkins.

"The whole issue raises questions on whether it is appropriate for policemen, who have no training in child care or problems, to deal with children in trouble," he said. "It is one thing for policemen on the beat to give a friendly warning, caution or reprimand. It is totally different for them to put children in a cell and to interrogate and threaten them."

Chief Supt Mounsey said his objection to the film being shown publicly was that it would identify the children involved. He also said there was an understanding that it would not be shown publicly, a claim strongly denied by Mr Broomfield.

In a statement issued yesterday Mr Broomfield said that the Stationer's Guild, which is the driving force behind the agreement of Graphical Society (Society of Artists) to

the union branch, had not been declined to

The Minister of State for the Home Office, Mr John Watkinson, said yesterday that he wished to appeal against the conviction, which was recorded at Wells Street magistrates' court, London. The firm was fined £25 for unlawfully carrying out a conveyance.

Mr Watkinson said that the magistrates refused to give the reasons for her decision, by way of case stated, which she was entitled to do for up to three months after the hearing, under the Magistrates Act, 1952. If the writ was granted, now that the three months have expired, the magistrates would be compelled to give reasons for her decision.

Moves are also being made by other cut-price conveyancing firms against convictions in magistrates' courts after prosecutions by the Law Society.

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MPs not to 'expose' dispute

By Our Politician

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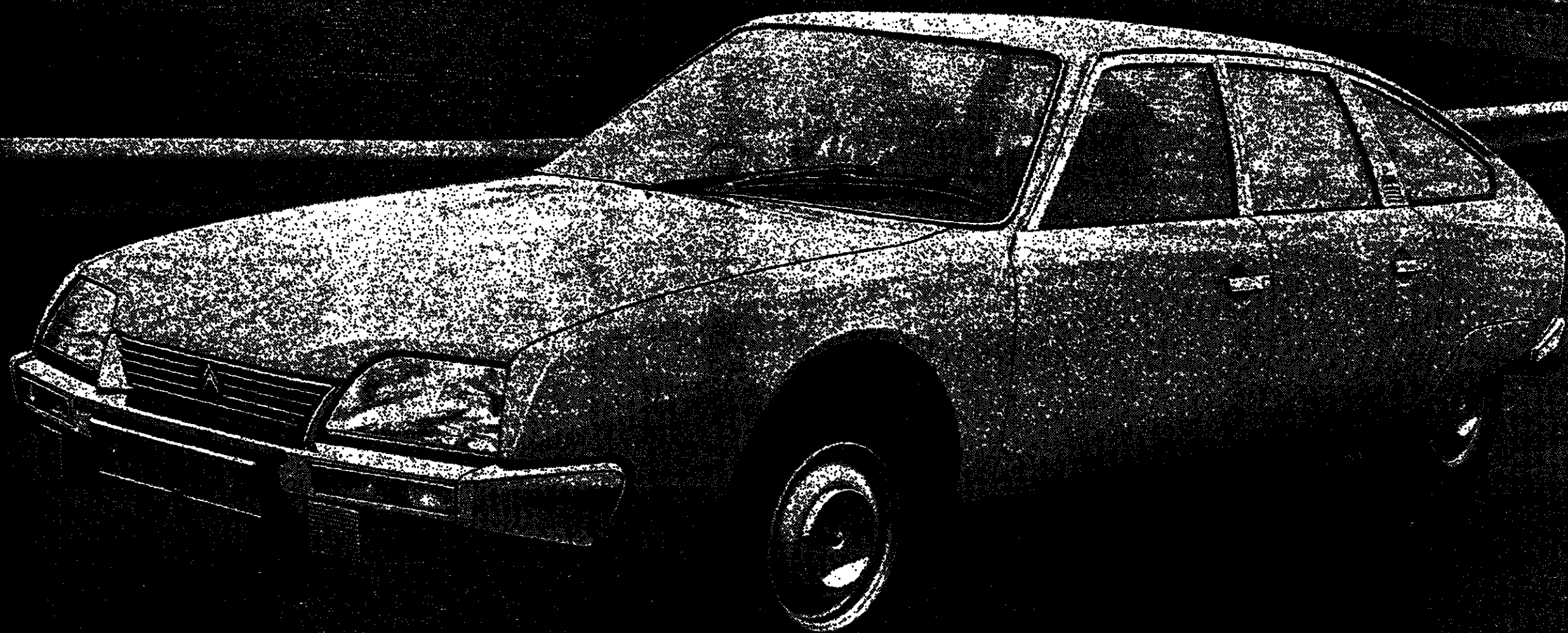
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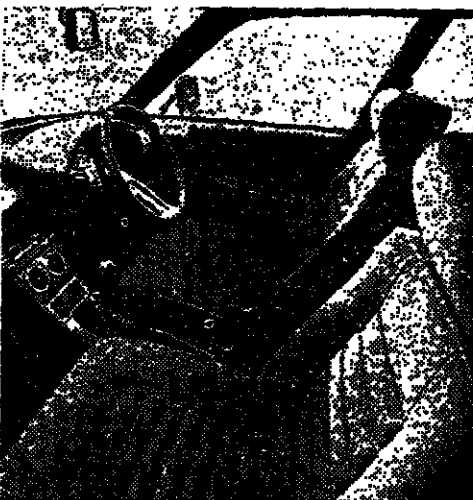
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Creative design.
If you have to drive very long distances, you'll get tired.

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CITROËN^CX

EUROPE

dition leaders discuss blow to card prestige delivered by gains in cantonal elections

There are still doubts about the number of councils changing majorities because some of the 100 or so councillors classified nationally as "various left" have in the past, in order to obtain benefits for their localities, often voted with the Government camp.

Three of the general councils in the greater Paris region will be controlled by the Communists, who, in contrast to the Socialists, dropped back to 17 per cent of the vote yesterday. The vote was attributed to the reluctance of some local Socialist formations to observe the "discipline of the left" order by M. François Mitterrand, the Socialist leader. M. Georges Marchais, the Communist secretary-general immediately protested.

The national voting percentages on the second ballot for the main groups in the cantons were as follows (with first ballot percentages in brackets):

Centrist parties (in Government)	8.2 (6.7)
Independents	8.2 (8.5)
Republicans	11.8 (10.6)
Gaullists (UDR)	2.6 (2.4)
Left-wing Radicals	17.4 (22.8)
Communists	30.9 (25.5)
Socialists	

Remaining percentages went to various left-wing groups and independents.

The Gaullists alone in the Government camp managed to do somewhat better from the larger turnout. This was particularly the case with well-known personalities like M. Michel Debré, the former Prime Minister, who saved his general councillor's seat on 400 extra votes. M. Marcel Cavallé, the independent Republican Secretary of Transport, lost his seat.

President Giscard d'Estaing summoned to the Elysée today M. Chirac, the Gaullist Prime Minister, M. Pompidou, the Independent Republican Minister of the Interior, and M. Lec-

met, the Centrist Minister of Justice, for a review of what has gone wrong for the coalition.

Some like M. Lecanuer, who alone of the Government leaders appeared on television last night, have already emphasised what many elements obviously feel - that the problems of unemployment, inflation, and social inequalities have compounded the lack of fulfilment over the past 22 months of the President's electoral programme.

M. Giscard d'Estaing also faces pressure against more reforms. M. Bertrand Motta, president of a leading independent group, said today that the cantonal verdict implied a "serious warning" that the majority has nothing to gain by borrowing something of the language and ideas from the Socialist myths. We are determined to draw the lessons.

The scene is now set for President Giscard d'Estaing's television broadcast in nine days, when a first indication of his intentions should emerge. When Parliament opens next month there will be another test as the Government is due to come up with some capital gains tax proposals, the *bête noire* of the President's more conservative supporters.

M. Mitterrand sounded extremely cautious in his reaction to the poll. The troubles were only beginning, he maintained. One problem was relations with the Communists, and the second was that "it will be difficult for us to maintain this level of success during the next two years. All those who regret the Socialist progress will multiply the obstacles against us."

One other thing the cantonal elections have shown is that an alliance with the Communists has not alienated popular support. After drawing equal votes in the Communist vote about 1973, the Socialists have since gone steadily ahead, reaching with yesterday's 30 per cent, as *Le Point* points out today, a better score than the old French Socialist Party of the Fourth Republic, obtained even in 1946.

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Bodily move for 1,913ft Rhine bridge City plans spectacular trip for river giant

The final stage involves sliding the new bridge off its present supports over the ramps to its permanent position.

The tops of the ramps are lined with mirror-polished stainless steel. Over this will be placed a layer of Teflon, the hard plastic better known as a lining for non-stick cooking pans, which becomes more slippery the more pressure is exerted on it.

Four huge hydraulic presses, two in the centre and two to "steer" on the Oberkassel side, will pull the bridge to its final resting place at a speed of a millimetre a second, or 12ft an hour. A gigantic special brake has been attached to the bridge to ensure that a steady pace is maintained.

A special big clock is being put up on the city centre side so the public can follow the move more easily. Loudspeakers are also going to be used to inform the expected tens of thousands of spectators.

A city official said: "I am sure many will come in anticipation of witnessing a possible disaster. We are providing special areas for viewing the removal, but it will happen so slowly that you will not be able to discern any movement."

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Attacks on Communists

Lisbon, March 15.—A series of attacks were launched against Communist targets in northern Portugal early today, sources said.

A bomb was thrown from a passing car at Communist Party offices in Espinho. Unidentified men fired machine gun bullets into the offices of a pro-Communist union leader in Felgueiras, near by. Nobody was hurt.

In Braga a gang beat Communists hanging up electioneering posters, eyewitnesses said. None of the group was seriously hurt.

Senhor Alvaro Cunha, the Communist leader, said in Lisbon yesterday that voting in the offices in Espinho next month would not be completely free unless anti-Communist violence was stopped in the conservative north.—Reuters.

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OVERSEAS

Warning by FAO on world grain stocks

The failure of the world's greatest trading nations to agree how to manage trade in the world's principal food-grain, wheat, was deplored last night by Dr Eric Ojala, Assistant Director-General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Addressing the Trade Policy Research Centre in London, Dr Ojala said that with aggregate stocks of basic foods at their present inadequate levels, a coincidence of bad harvests in the main developing and developed regions would spell severe malnutrition, possibly starvation, for millions of the world's poorest people.

Equally, bumper crops in all regions would produce a surplus which would discourage export producers, leading straight back to insecurity.

Measures to establish buffer stocks of basic foods were being held up, he said, mainly by the slow pace of the current multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Serious differences persisted on the nature, purpose and management of food stocks.

In both the GATT talks and those of the International Wheat Council, the main participants were the United States, the EEC, Australia and Canada, with Argentina also looming large.

The technical problems of an international grain arrangement with reserve stocks were soluble, he said. But the political momentum seemed to have been lost. In the meanwhile, developing countries could not establish large enough stocks to provide security against major crop failures.

Dr Ojala attached great importance to the first meeting on April 5 in Rome of the FAO-sponsored Committee on World Food Security, an inter-governmental body.

The aim was to achieve an internationally coordinated network of nationally owned and managed stocks, within an agreed general policy framework.

Tass attacks 'Times' report on Nato

From Our Correspondent Moscow, March 15

Tass today attacked *The Times* for its report on a Nato study of the possible effect of a surprise attack by Warsaw Pact forces on western Europe. It strongly criticized the "sensational treatment" given to the Nato report.

Tass also took exception to the publication in the same issue of a commentary by Lord Chalfont, whom it described as a notorious opponent of détente and the author of many anti-Soviet writings. The intention was to inflame passions in the West against the socialist states so as to further intensify the arms race, said Tass.

"The reason for this is not far to seek. Certain circles in the West do not welcome the improvement in the political climate as a result of the policy of détente consistently pursued by the Soviet Union and other socialist states."

Tass said this was what Mr Leonid Brezhnev, the Soviet Communist Party leader, had in mind recently when he called allegations of a Soviet threat "a monstrous lie from beginning to end," and said the Soviet Union had no intention of attacking anyone.

MP's anxiety: The Nato defence study which is reported to claim that the Warsaw Pact could deliver a successful surprise attack on Western Europe using only conventional forces,

was "extremely disturbing". Mr Ian Gilmour, the Shadow Defence Minister, said yesterday.

"It underlines the warnings given so spectacularly by Mrs Thatcher in January and Conservative spokesmen since then," he added. "All this confirms that this is a crazy time for the Government to go on cutting Britain's defences."

Mr Gilmour, MP for Chesham and Amersham, said: "The situation is even more dangerous than the report suggests because it apparently leaves out the sea-option of the Russians."

"Europe should do everything in its power to build up its forces and to become more cohesive militarily. Any suggestion that there should be any uncoupling in the alliance between America and Europe would be totally wrong."

Brussels, March 15.—Nato sources said the study was not an official Nato report. Attempts were being made to trace it.

The military committee, Nato's most senior military body, had not received such a study. It was not being circulated to national military representatives here. The political authorities at Nato headquarters would not receive such a study until it had cleared the military committee.—Reuters.

Leading article, page 15

US hearing on Concorde in New Jersey Senate

From Our Own Correspondent New York, March 15

British and French representatives appeared today at a public hearing on Concorde in Trenton, New Jersey, called by the New Jersey State Senate.

They argued in favour of the aircraft being given landing rights in New York, and were opposed by speakers from the New York state legislature, who want it banned.

New Jersey is important because the three airports in

the New York area are jointly run by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. The New York state legislature has adopted a Bill which would ban Concorde, but it will only come into effect if identical legislation is passed in New Jersey.

The port authority decided last week to ban Concorde for a minimum of six months while its performance is tested; but British Airways and Air France are expected to challenge the decision in court.

in group ks out r Leipzig ss ban

in van der Vat March 15

An entire delegation to the Spring Fair walked away and returned home. East Germany refused a three West German units to cover the event.

The delegation, led by Dr. Hans-Joachim Lauth, East German official, the ban reversed. When led, Dr. Friedrichs telephoned Herr Schmidt, the German Chancellor, in Bonn, to inform him of the decision to lift the visit.

Three correspondents released work for the two German radio stations broadcast abroad, one to the other up to the stations are of the Bonn Government. The two stations are not dissimilar to the ship between the BBC's Services and the Government, enjoying support but editorial licence.

Bonn clearly regards stations as propaganda and has already issued a sports comment from one and a reporter from the other. Last year, *Der Spiegel* magazine was banned from East Berlin for a that the children of the fled to the West winged farm out for adoption in East.

A strongly-worded statement from a Bonn press conference today. Herr Klaus, the chief government spokesman, described the ban as a breach of German agreements the declaration made at the Helsinki security summit.

Glitter Gaus, West German Permanent Representative to East Berlin, was yesterday an appointment times at the East Foreign Ministry.

Madrid Cabinet said to be facing crisis

From Our Correspondent Madrid, March 15

Reports circulating in Madrid today spoke of a Government crisis allegedly precipitated by the desire of Señor Carlos Arias Navarro, the Prime Minister, to resign. Other ministerial changes may be in the offing.

According to reliable sources, Señor Arias is anxious to leave. He is believed to have informed King Juan Carlos about his intention when he saw him on Friday night.

Señor Arias Navarro, who was Prime Minister under Franco, offered his resignation after the general's death. He was believed then to have agreed to see the country through the transitional period, with a view to resigning later.

Informal sources also spoke of a "power struggle" between Señor Arias and Señor Manuel Fraga Iribarne, the Interior Minister, over the direction in which the country should be heading and the speed of the promised democratic reforms.

A taxi driver was shot dead in Guetaria, near San Sebastian, it was learnt here today. The killing, believed to be the work of the Basque separatist organization ETA, after speculation that the fatal shootings in Victoria by police might lead to a new wave of anti-Government violence by Basque extremists.

The driver, named as Manuel Albizu Aliaga, was found slumped over the wheel.

Meanwhile, the military authorities are keeping silent about an Army major understood to have been arrested last week. Sources close to the Democratic Military Union, an illegal group calling for democratic reforms, said recently that the intelligence service has been making investigations into the activities of certain officers with a view to rounding up alleged members of the organization.

Reports circulating in Madrid today spoke of a Government crisis allegedly precipitated by the desire of Señor Carlos Arias Navarro, the Prime Minister, to resign. Other ministerial changes may be in the offing.

According to reliable sources, Señor Arias is anxious to leave. He is believed to have informed King Juan Carlos about his intention when he saw him on Friday night.

Señor Arias Navarro, who was Prime Minister under Franco, offered his resignation after the general's death. He was believed then to have agreed to see the country through the transitional period, with a view to resigning later.

Informal sources also spoke of a "power struggle" between Señor Arias and Señor Manuel Fraga Iribarne, the Interior Minister, over the direction in which the country should be heading and the speed of the promised democratic reforms.

A taxi driver was shot dead in Guetaria, near San Sebastian, it was learnt here today. The killing, believed to be the work of the Basque separatist organization ETA, after speculation that the fatal shootings in Victoria by police might lead to a new wave of anti-Government violence by Basque extremists.

The driver, named as Manuel Albizu Aliaga, was found slumped over the wheel.

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Italian police accused over fatal shooting

From Our Own Correspondent Rome, March 15

The Communists accuse the police of having lost their heads in a fight with extremists in the centre of Rome yesterday which cost the life of an innocent passer-by who was apparently hit by a police bullet.

The case is today the subject of a series of parliamentary questions calling on the Government for an explanation.

Signor Mario Marotta, who was 53, was killed on the Pincio hill after the police had pursued a group of left-wing extremists from the Piazza di Spagna. The extremists had thrown incendiary bombs at the Spanish Embassy to the Holy See.

The Communist interpretation of the incident, published on the front page of the party's newspaper *L'Unità*, is that the authorities charged with

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Protesters raid right-wing groups' offices

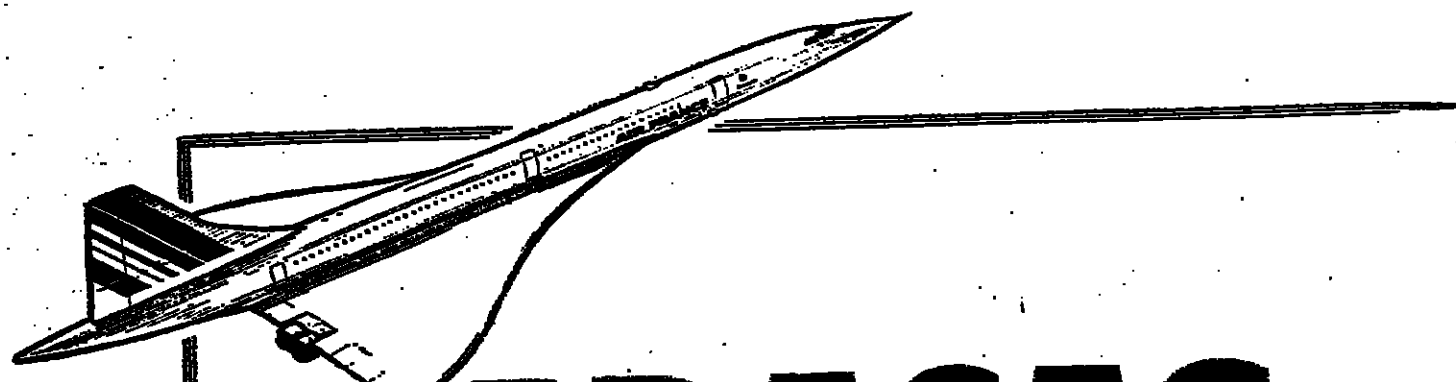
From Our Correspondent Milan, March 15

Hundreds of left-wingers today attacked the Milan offices of right-wing organizations as well as bars, nightclubs and shops owned or patronized by right-wingers. They were protesting against the shooting by the police of a civilian during yesterday's riots in Rome.

The left-wingers, organized in small groups, threw incendiary bombs, smashed windows and broke into offices.

The police, who had been concentrated near the Spanish Consulate, were unable to reach any of the trouble spots in time. Damage was reported to be heavy but there were no casualties.

Paris, March 15.—The Paris Metro was hit today by a 24-hour strike as the trade unions in the public sector kept up their pressure on the Government for a new wage agreement.



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d tape strangles one n's concept of the EEC

From Our Own Correspondent March 15

The European Community really exists? This question put to the Commission in Brussels by Signor Libero della Porta, an Italian Socialist member of the European Parliament, after the Kafkaesque antics of one EEC citizen tried to transport a small of modern furniture to Luxembourg.

The unidentified Luxembourg resident holidaying in a band that there was no in his car to bring his home, he took it to a Italian railway station to send it by train.

He was confronted by a customs official, a dispatch note, to be sent six times (which he gave about a separate items of in- in- an export declaration, which required him to 40 different ations), and another cus-

tom's declaration with 38 different boxes to be filled in. He was also required to produce three copies of the bill of purchase as the article had been paid for in cash.

The Luxembourg resident gave up the attempt to send his purchase by rail, preferring to use the services of a private delivery firm, which charged him four times the railway tariff rate.

Was this the case of normal procedure and if so, did the Commission not feel that the amount of bureaucratic red tape surrounding a straightforward operation was bound to give Europeans serious doubts as to the existence of the EEC, Signor della Porta asked.

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OVERSEAS

Mr Carter favourite in Illinois after national poll shows that he could defeat President Ford

From Michael Binyon
Chicago, March 15

Mr Jimmy Carter flew back to Illinois this morning for a final few hours campaigning in sunny but windy Chicago, encouraged by some of the city's newspapers, a national opinion poll which puts him marginally ahead of Senator Hubert Humphrey—for the first time—as President Ford's main challenger, and the general expectation that he will win the Illinois Democratic primary tomorrow.

His main rival, Governor George Wallace, was still putting up a strong fight and held an early morning meeting in Chicago, two press conferences in the centre of Illinois, and an evening rally in Springfield, the state capital. In an effort to play down the issue of his health, which has dogged him in Illinois since his Florida defeat, the Alabama governor recorded a television interview sitting in an ordinary chair instead of a wheelchair.

The Wallace campaign is still confident of victory. "I'm beautiful, beautiful, everyone's gone crazy," said one of his campaign staff, and the Carter camp is still worried that the conservative voters will back Mr Wallace in force. Hedging his bets, Governor Wallace has already played down the significance of the popular ballot, saying that he is mainly after delegates (the presidential preference primary is a non-binding or "beauty contest", unrelated to the election of delegates to the national convention, except psychologically: in each congressional district the biggest vote winner takes all delegates).

Nevertheless, Mr Wallace has tried to broaden his appeal, touching for a minute on local issues and attacking Mr Carter directly for supposedly being a former spy turned foe.

Mr Sargent Shriver, who is expected to come third, was still making optimistic forecasts of victory by a margin of 3 or 4 per cent and boasting about



US Presidential Elections 1976

the influential Illinois figures who have endorsed his campaign—though, much to his chagrin they do not include Mr Richard Daley, the Chicago mayor, who has refused to commit his weight and prestige to any of the declared runners.

The only other Democrat in Illinois, Mr Fred Harris, seems to have given up. He went back to Washington at the weekend, leaving his campaign staff muttering: "We're after delegates." He will not get many.

In the Republican camp, both contenders have now left the state. President Ford, after 40 busy hours in Illinois, departed on Friday and Mr Ronald Reagan left this, his native state, for California on Saturday. The President should win handsomely over the former California governor: his campaign here was professional and effective, and the man himself responded accordingly.

There were none of the famous slips and gaps, the defensive tone had gone, and President Ford looked and spoke like a suave leader. Illinois seems to have been rather surprised by this unexpected image.

Certainly, his reception by Republican party volunteers and campaign staff was warm and enthusiastic. Reagan headquarters were making good play with the suspension of Mr "Bo" Callaway, the Ford campaign manager, but this has not aroused much interest here.

For all that, however, the Illinois campaign has not been very exciting, mainly because people are too preoccupied with the domestic battle for state governor, the primaries for which also take place

tomorrow. A Chicago poll says that only 45 per cent will turn out to vote.

Spot samples in Chicago revealed widespread apathy: a student, aged 25, knew President Ford and Mr Reagan, "but I can't think of that other dude's name".

Last-minute abuse is still flying around in the governor's race. With the present Democratic governor, Mr Daniel Walker, abruptly deciding not to reveal any further 1972 campaign contributions until after the election and Mr Michael J. Sullivane, his Daley-backed opponent, saying: "Those who talk holy seldom come clean themselves", a local pundit thinks the weather will make all the difference. But the only predictable outcome is that Mr Daley will continue to "shoot the shots" whoever wins.

This morning the Chicago Tribune said that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had received a report of a plot to assassinate President Ford and Mr Reagan at the Republican convention in Kansas City, by an underground terrorist group in California. But the reported details were hazy. Fred Emery writes from Washington: The Gallup Poll today shows Mr Carter trending to beat President Ford by 47 to 42 per cent. The same poll indicates that Mr Humphrey, a non-candidate who remains the top choice among Democrats, would tend to lose to the President by 48 to 43 per cent. The poll sample was taken last week after the Florida primary won by Mr Carter.

A tentative conclusion has to be that Mr Carter at present has greater appeal than does Mr Humphrey to the non-party independent voter who, of course, has barely been voting in the primaries.

Another poll, with a less reliable history and less influence, was reported in Time magazine, and there Mr Ford tended to come out the winner. The Yankelovich poll tended to show Carter by 46 to 38 per cent, and defeating Senator Humphrey by 52 to 37 per cent.



These Rhodesian troops, based at a barracks near Salisbury, are being put through a tough commando-type course as part of the Smith Government's intensification of the training of its white and black forces.

Rhodesians 'have not massacred Africans'

From Richard Cecil
A Special Correspondent
Mount Darwin, Rhodesia, March 15

A German Roman Catholic missionary today denied knowledge of massacres of African villagers by Rhodesian troops. He said: "They may have been African, but they have not massacred them. We would have heard about it."

His mission, St Albert's, is the only one remaining in the operational area north of Mount Darwin in north-eastern Rhodesia, where the massacres are alleged to have taken place. Below the Zambezi escarpment nearer the Mozambique border, where the mission has been for more than a year and its inhabitants have been gathered into protected villages with their own militia or home

guard to reduce terrorist infiltration, and, from what I have seen of the dead and the still living mutilated bodies of Africans who are regularly brought into the hospital here, they are doing so with great determination and in some areas with success.

However, one of the most important characteristics of the spirit mediums of the Mbokore, who are regularly brought into the hospital here, they are doing so with great determination and in some areas with success.

In the Mount Darwin area the scheme is jealously and strictly watched over by Mr James Latham, the District Commissioner, and probably the leading authority on the language, customs and superstitions of the Mbokore, who are regularly brought into the hospital here, they are doing so with great determination and in some areas with success.

Mr Latham has clashed with an Army impatient to get Africans in border areas into protected villages for tactical reasons. He argues that to ignore their deep spiritual attachments to natural features and for the land itself is to alienate them for a very long time. Reconciliation has therefore been allowed to allow time to gain the cooperation of the spirit mediums and for more detailed research of the land to be resented.

The most damning accusations of atrocities have come from Mr. Tom McCarthy, an Irishman brought up in London, who deserted from the Rhodesian Army after six months' service. He declared in the Daily Mirror that he had taken part in the massacre of the entire population of a village in this area, and had been made to execute an African boy.

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West curfew disturbs

Worsen

From Eric...
Jerusalem, March 15
An incident placed on the eighth night of this afternoon disturbances the Arab unrest in a began a week ago. Israeli troops, warning in the town, were on heavy street given out. The curfew was stone-throwing troops, in one, Israeli Army of... stop. Armies, which rocks across the... girls school, and been thrown in, and forced, barricaded... arrests. Arab... teachers were... were dragged, in the school.

Shots were... at a refugee... Troops ordered... on the... their heads... made for trouble.

There were... throughout the... Jerusalem... to the... and three... forces... Elias Freil... to appeal... officers not to... students.

Many shops... Jerusalem... students... a... bazaar. The... with police in... of the Muslim... in the north... just, where... eight days... the... a... member of... dents and security... Arab sources... there were... at Tel Aviv... students injured... day at Jenin... raided a refuge... away several... leaders of a... After today's... seems little... return to normal... and councils of... late at night... and rejected... Bank military... withdraw their... announced last... troops used for... occupation at... school... at Bir... city college.

The majors... retract their... Israel agrees to... settlement in the... areas, bans... to prevent... at the Temple... Jerusalem, cancels... on student... releases... ad... detainees.

Jewish religious... again attempted... to procession... was a... to... the... turned away by... few who got... that they were... Arabs.

Bomb casu... at Argentin... Army com...

Buenos Aires, March 15—A... 29 were... when a bomb... the 20-storey... Army's general... new burst of... the... explosion... than 200 yards... of President... Buenos Aires... broke up... to the... the Army building... ings near by.

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Dr Castro in talks on Africa's liberation

Paris, March 15.—Dr Fidel Castro, the Cuban Prime Minister, today began talks in Conakry, Guinea, with the heads of state of Angola and Guinea-Bissau which are likely to decide the future of the fight for the liberation of Southern Africa.

Dr Castro, President Neto, of liberation of Southern Africa, Angola, and President Cabral of Guinea-Bissau, arrived in Conakry last night for a previously announced summit meeting hosted by President Sekou Touré of Guinea.

Before leaving Luanda for the meeting Dr Neto told reporters that he was going to discuss "problems regarding our liberation struggle and the liberation struggles in Southern Africa".

Conakry radio today gave the impression that Dr Castro was discussing with the leaders who helped to engineer the Soviet and Cuban victory in Angola what steps should be taken in the left-led struggle for the liberation of Africa.

Imperialism was "quaking" at the prospect of a new progressive common front in Africa, the radio said. Because of "the imperialist world", Africans struggling for liberation and "the progressive world" had decided "no longer to submit", the radio added.

Dr Castro had earlier visited Eastern Europe and Algeria. Reporting this morning's session of the talks Luanda radio in Angola said they had centred on multilateral and bilateral issues, but noted that the summit meeting could mean increased aid "to peoples fighting against apartheid, imperialism and colonialism".

They will have significance "not only for our continent, but for all exploited peoples", the Angolan radio station said. Meanwhile here in Paris, President Senghor of Senegal criticized the Conakry meeting. He said that Africans must not go looking for big brothers. It is time we Africans started thinking for ourselves.—Agence France-Presse.

S Africa seeks an intermediary

From Nicholas Ashford
Johannesburg, March 15

South Africa's attempts to negotiate a withdrawal of its troops from southern Angola in exchange for guarantees concerning the Cunene river irrigation and hydro-electric scheme appear to have run into difficulties.

The Government is now seeking new ways of breaking the impasse between Cape Town and the left-wing regime in Luanda. One possibility being discussed, and which has been leaked to the press, is for a Western country to take over responsibility for the completion of the Cunene project.

This would involve completing the final stages of a dam at Caluene, about 15 miles inside southern Angola, as a dam and power station at Ruacana, situated on either side of the Angolan-Namibian (South-West African) border.

At the moment the proposal is still at the discussion stage. The agency has far as can be ascertained, no Western country has been approached yet; but the fact that such an idea is being considered at all indicates that

the Vorster Government is anxious to find a way out of its present predicament.

One of the main problems is the difficulty in finding an intermediary who could communicate between South Africa and the leading authority on the Africa's détente partners, the black Africa have poor relations with the Popular front (MPLA) rulers in Luanda, and all black states support the view that South Africa should withdraw from South-West Africa as well as Angola.

For its part, South Africa wants to have water-tight guarantees about the Cunene scheme, in which it has invested more than £100m, before pulling out its troops. From its point of view, such guarantees would be more credible if underwritten by a Western country rather than merely coming verbally from the MPLA.

However, tension in the border should be eased by South Africa's decision last week to withdraw from Pereira d'Eca and other southern Angolan refugee centres and hand over the refugee problem to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Mr P. W. Botha, the Defence Minister, said today that South African troops would give no

further assistance after March 27 to the 5,000 to 6,000 refugees in Southern Angola. He was replying to a statement by the Windhoek representative of the ICRC, Mr Peter Kung, that South African troops were still in charge at two refugee camps, at Cuangar and Caluene.

Some 270 black Angolans, most of them men claiming to be former members of the Union for Total Independence (Unita), crossed into Ovambo land in Northern Namibia today and are being cared for by South African forces, according to Mr Jamie de Wet, the Commissioner General for the indigenous Peoples of South-West Africa.

The refugees had been left behind at the Pereira d'Eca camp because they did not qualify for an airlift to Portugal. They had fled into Namibia because they were frightened of the advancing MPLA and Cuban forces, they said.

A number of other refugees are still reported to be approaching the Namibian border. "When they arrive on the border we will let them through," Mr de Wet said. "We are doing nothing else. We certainly cannot send them back at this stage."

Loyal troops foil coup attempt in Niger

Niamey, March 15.—President Seyni Kountche of Niger today announced that loyal troops had foiled an attempted coup led by Major Moussa Hamani, the Supreme Military Council, he stated, had the situation under control thanks to loyalist elements in the armed forces.

He told his countrymen in a broadcast that the coup's three leaders—Major Moussa Hamani, Major Mohamed and Mr Ahmed Moudou, the secretary-general of the Niger National Union of Workers—had been arrested.

President Kountche, who himself took power 22 months ago in a military coup which overthrew President Hamani, appealed for calm and told the people to "obey orders, which will be published in the press".

Major Moussa, the reported coup leader, lost his post as Minister of Rural Economy, President Kountche said. President Hamani carried out a Cabinet reshuffle and replaced four military men with civilians.

Last night's coup attempt is the second within eight months. Last August a member of the Supreme Military Council was arrested for plotting to seize power.

Niger, a landlocked West African country with a population of about four million, sprawls across 495,000 square miles.

The discovery of rich uranium deposits has lessened the country's dependence on its main exports, groundnuts and livestock.

President Kountche recently announced that oil had been found in south-eastern Niger, near Lake Chad.—Agence France-Presse.

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Students wish to 'save' Mr Teng

Hongkong, March 15.—The official New China news agency indicated in a report today that Mr Teng Hsiao-Ping, the Chinese Deputy Prime Minister, may still have some chances of political survival.

It quoted teachers and students at Tsinghua university, Peking, as saying they would "try once again to save him, through serious criticism, as we did during the earlier days of the Cultural Revolution and see how he behaves in the future."

Mr Teng, aged 72, who has been attacked in wallposters for several weeks, was not named, but the agency clearly alluded to him as "that unpatriotic capitalist ruler."

The report appeared to be more conciliatory than recent People's Daily articles. Mr Teng was first "purged" during the Cultural Revolution in the 1960s but was rehabilitated in April 1973. He has not been

heard of since January 15 and has been chief target of an anti-right-wing campaign.

The students said teachers and university raised the question: "since he persists in practising revisionism, what shall we do?"

The main experience drawn from the Cultural Revolution gives the answer that the masses must be aroused to expose and criticize revisionism.

"Whoever practises revisionism may be criticized, no matter how high his position or how long his service. He cannot be left unchallenged because this would lead to the restoration of capitalism."

Chairman Mao has formulated this consistent policy for our party: "Learn from the past mistakes to avoid future ones and cure the sickness to save the patient."

The Tsinghua teachers and students accused Mr Teng of "peddling the theory of the dying out of class struggle." It

added: "Organizationally, he tried to rally like-minded capitalist-reformers to overthrow the conclusions reached in the Great proletarian cultural revolution, and stage a frantic comeback against the proletarian."

Peking, March 15.—Mr Hua Kuo-Feng, the acting Prime Minister, today greeted a foreign head of government for the first time since his appointment five weeks ago.

Mr Hua, smiling and waving to diplomats and journalists, met Mr Kayoone Phumvihan, the Laotian Prime Minister, who arrived at Peking airport on an official visit.

Mr Hua was accompanied by a left-wing Politburo ideologue, Mr Yao Wen-Yuan, Mr Chiao Kuan-Hua, the Foreign Minister, and the Mayor of Peking, Mr Wu Tsh. Neither Mr Teng nor Mr Hua were seen.

Mr Hua was widely regarded as his main opponent, Mr Chiang Ching, the Premier's wife, were present.—Reuter.

New Zealand envoy in London to quit

From Our Correspondent
Auckland, March 15

Mr Hugh Watt, the New Zealand High Commissioner in London, has resigned and will return to New Zealand in June to become a member of the Government Accident Compensation Commission. He will be succeeded by Mr Douglas Carter, a former Minister of Agriculture. Mr Watt's resignation relieves the Government of some embarrassment. He was deputy Prime Minister in the ousted Labour Government and was poised to London after failing in an attempt to take over the Labour leadership on Mr Norman Kirk's death.

Mr Carter's experience in agriculture is seen as an advantage at a time when the High Commission must concern itself with New Zealand's opportunities in Europe.

Whitlam conspiracy can hearing can go ahead

Canberra, March 15.—A magistrate ruled today that a hearing of conspiracy charges against Mr Gough Whitlam, the former Australian Prime Minister, and three of his ministers could go ahead after legal argument over his jurisdiction in the case.

The case, brought by a Sydney solicitor, Mr Danny Sane, was adjourned last month after defence counsel submitted that the magistrate in the Queensland Court of Sessions was not empowered to adjudicate on the charges.

However, the magistrate, Mr Darcy Leo, said today it was clear he had power to deal with the charges brought under the Commonwealth (Federal) Crimes Act.

Mr Whitlam and his three co-defendants face conspiracy charges brought under New South Wales common law in addition to the Crimes Act.

Mr Whitlam's defence counsel, Mr Rex Connor, former Minister for Minerals and Energy, Dr James Cairns,

former Treasurer, lost their portfolios of the loans after Mr Whitlam was then Attorney-General. The loans issue is now a big part of a political crisis with the dismissal of Mr Whitlam by the Government by the General Sir John Gorton.

The Liberal-Country coalition, led by Mr Fraser, returned to power last month when Mr Leo said the charges under the law of New South Wales were not quite as clear as the charges brought under the Commonwealth (Federal) Crimes Act.

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OPERA AND BALLET

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FAIRGROUND MARIONETTES
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Tonight 8.0. Tomorrow 1.0 & 8.0
AN FLOWRIGHT, HELEN MIRREN
KN. MOFFAT, FRANK GRADIS
AND PETER MCNENRY IN
THE SEA GULL
Fri. March 18 to Wed. March 24
THE BED BEFORE YESTERDAY

ART GALL


AGNEW

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THEATRES

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00.00. HAVSARKER. (150) 2730-
2741. Dustin Hoffman. "Lenny".
IXI. Sep. prosa. W. 3.00. 5.15.
8.30. All seats may be booked.
DEON. LEICESTER SQUARE. (150
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12.10. 2.40. 3.35. 8.10.


SERIES



The philosophy of the simultaneous


At Kertle's Yard, Cambridge, a most imaginative exhibition, *Time and Space* Dider Yusefzadeh organized to document the ideas simultaneously as it was seen by writers and artists. The quotation in the title comes from Virgil, but, though the Futurist contribution is not minimized, the exhibition concentrates on the ideas of poets and painters working in Paris before the war put on the help of Soviet poets, notably Boris Pasternak, who has lent photographs. Not a single original simultaneous painting is included, but by means of photographs and text, the music the excitement and newness of this realization of the multiplicity of the modern consciousness is most vividly related.

The catalogue essay, by Virgil and Spate who conceived the exhibition, explains simultaneously the way in which



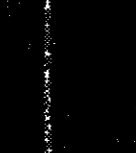
Peter Phillips: La Dore. 1968

these ideas developed, and is rich in fascinating quotations. The show has been got together by the Faculty of Architecture and History of Art at the university, Eamon College and Chelsea School of Art. It is a model of how to convey information and imaginative recreation by using some of those very means of communication which simul-



175

room. There are windows to peep through, bits of Eiffel Tower to duck under, and reconstructions of some of Sonia Delaunay's clothes and applied designs. This immensely stimulating exhibition continues at Kettle's Yard until April 6 and it is hoped that it will later be shown in London and elsewhere. The Arts Council, who contributed financially



share their belief that it is meaningful to create an art which expresses modern life or share their faith that such art can transform the way we live, think and feel." She concludes: "We should ask why. But the answer has already been largely given at the beginning of her essay: "Surrealismism was in fact the fruit of a marvellously common"

any depth or illusionism in space. Each picture resembles a large, flat, apertured, multi-screen projection. This means that the images tend to be viewed almost literally simultaneously as these paintings of Phillips can be seen by spectators updating of the concept simultaneously, which in reality is as live an issue today as was in 1913, although Phillips' techniques are quite different from those of Dadaism or even the Futurists. With the exception of *Automobilia*, "two-screen" painting on double canvas, Phillips' other paintings are equally as successful. There is retrospective showing of his works dating back to the early Sixties at the Tate outside the concur.

Phillips, like another great artist of the pop generation, Derek Boshier, was unaccountably left out of *Arte Ingles*.

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Solti works a miracle with Mahler

Walter, or some other Mahler enthusiast, stuck his neck out and conducted the second symphony, so-called enlightenment.

opinion responded automatically that the finale consisted of disparate trifles, ill-fitting together. Solti waddles the movement together quite naturally, with pauses when required, but seamlessly, bringing out the connective thought relating it (one believes by hindsight) to the earlier movements, and building the symphonic tension to the close so cogently that when the chorus sings "Sterben wirst du" and the final "Auferstehen," any tone-deaf person must join in, and any

Nor everything in Solft's performance on Sunday was perfect: the off-stage brass band dropped a brick, some percussion effects were too loud, one acceleration worked against Mahler. For the rest it was a performance so marvellously played and sung (Heather Harper and Helen Watts were the soloists) that one might have wondered why Beethoven's Choral Symphony is so famous.

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After this, bert's Quartet C minor, the Mozart's Adagio seemed like a But the tremolo shadows here and there were interpretation. thoroughly a message to be


London debuts

classics we heard a Sonata and a caprice by Vieuxtemps. The spectacle of Mr Arad sailing over all their virtuosic hurdles was such a relief, provided initial pleasure, but this quick passing of the actual ideas was too commonplace. A Paganini-like Sonata had a stronger lyrical impulse, yet so gifted a player as Mr Arad could well have derived a heavier programme: there were major

Much lovely singing was heard from Patricia Price, whose mezzo soprano voice was absolutely firm, clear, and used an exceptionally wide range of colour and dynamics with great expressiveness. (Lizst's *Die*

example of a performance shaped by sound instincts that have been strengthened by intelligent study, and the repertoire offered was uncommonly interesting. Henk Badings's *Vier Wogenlieder* were engaging in their cool, astral quality, and it was nice to find that Joaquín Rodrigo has composed other things beside the perennial *Concierto de Aranjuez*; his *Quatro Madrigales Amatorios* being pleasantly sultry, Grana-
dos's *La Maja y el Ruiseñor*, too, was sung with beautifully temperate force, and I was even able to enjoy some of Samuel Barber's *German Songs*, regressive though the

AL IVORE



*An excerpt
Japanese is*

holder, c.1940s.
inches, mid-
July, 1971.

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A gala preview of the Jerome Kern musical *Very Good Eddie* will be held at the Piccadilly

Theatre on Friday to launch the £50,000 appeal to establish the Theatres Trust. Dame Margot Fonteyn and Mr. Hugh Jenkins, Minister for the Arts, will be in the audience for the preview.

Tickets, priced £1 to £10, are available for the gala from Save London's Theatres Campaign, 8 Harley Street, London.

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Drawing by Jeanette Collins

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 Then sit back and
 enjoy the informal
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 day, your husband might
 even buy you some-
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lorraine, spinach and cottage cheese or onion flm. Scones are nice made with wholemeal flour—I usually use half and half, sifting the raising agent with the white flour. If you mix scones with cultured buttermilk or a blend of natural yogurt and fresh milk, you will get a lovely result.

If you find it difficult to think of ideas for using whole wheat flour, the answer is to visit a shop like Cranks—a health food shop in Marshall Street, London—and just look at the bakery section. Cranks sells nothing but 100 per cent stone ground wholewheat flour.

activities described in detail. But as a book for spectators it is an unbestselling series of arguments.

Below : Skating jumps explained in Rules of the Game

Rbo right backward outside
Lbo left backward outside
Rfo right forward outside
Lfo left forward outside
Rbi right backward inside
3 turn revolution of 180° in the air

Anax-Paulsen jump

Rbo

Lfo

Lfo

Photograph by Trevor Sutton

It was first published by Paddington Press in 1974, and the bumper Corgi paperback edition will reach the shops on March 26, price £2.95. *Rules of the Game* covers more than 150 sports, 400 events, and has 2,500 clear and informative coloured illustrations.

Packing so much into 320 pages must mean that the text sticks to basics, so you will not find the finer points of many activities described in any detail. But as a book for spectators it is an unbeatable carrier of arguments.

Below : Skating jumps explained in Rules of the Game

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the semi-final draw finds
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the 10th time in eleven
got past Bristol, clearly
not much anxiety, in the
at on Saturday, Rosslyn
better than they did last
get their last in the final
to undertake Wakefield,
are thankful for a home
for managing to avoid
Gosforth.

No rocking cross-Channel boat

By Peter West

Smith, of Sale, and Cooper, of Moseley, are restorers of the last international of the season, against France in Paris on Saturday. Lampkowski and Old, who played together against Scotland and Ireland, have been dropped. A third change sees the departure of Keyworth, the Swansea flank forward, who has played in four matches this season, and his replacement by a former England captain, Dixon, of Gosforth, for his 14th cap, and his first appearance since the Irish international last year.

These are the only alterations to the side that lost to Ireland after establishing a 3-0 lead, though presumably Hignell, who was replaced in that match by cause of a hamstring injury, will need to prove his fitness. Neary retains the captaincy, in spite of coming under fire for his tactical judgment and apparent lack of hope as leader. But he was never an extravagant player, the side have played well for him all season and, with England facing possible whitewash of four defeats in the championship, the selectors may well have considered that this was no time for rocking the boat with a shift of the helm.



Paired for Paris: Smith (left) and Cooper are reunited.

Lampkowski's rugged game, as the radio commentator perceptively observed at the weekend, is tailor-made for the League code. It has taken England's selectors a long time to recognize that in fact, and most notably his short service, which he may well lengthen in the future, is a severely compromising influence on the midfield. To that extent Old can consider himself unlucky. But for all his excellent footballing qualities, and his particular resource at close quarters, his England career has been punctuated by some unhappy mistakes and sometimes, as against Ireland, by a failure to make good those mistakes.

Having played against Australia and Wales, Cooper was injured before the Scottish game, yielded up his place to Old, and then spent the rest of the season as a replacement. If the selectors' first decision for Paris was to bring back Old, then it must have been a replacement. If the selectors' first decision for Paris was to bring back Old, then it must have been a replacement. If the selectors' first decision for Paris was to bring back Old, then it must have been a replacement.

Early start by Richmond for Melrose

London Allan
London are taking part in the seven-a-side rugby tournament this year. It is the first time since 1951 that Richmond has been beaten in the round by the eventual winners, Melrose. The team, which has been in the tournament since 1951, is now a different game. Now...

Horn and Backwell — are in the news again. Barbarians, Cardiff, Harlequins and Oxford are the guest sides in the gala century event on April 3. Oxford beat the final last year. There is a new trophy this year, presented by the town council. The previous one, the Borden Memorial trophy, which has been played for since 1919, is to be kept in the club house.

Barbarians have played three times in the century event, but have never won. They were beaten in a Langhorne final. It is too early to say who will come out on top, but the odds are heavily in favour of the Barbarians. They are sure to be quick and crafty as anybody, with backs like Cooke, Lambert and Wood to choose from.

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ing uniz waiting Stracey if beats Lewis

John Stracey retains his waterweight boxing title. He defeated Lewis in a close contest. Stracey is now a triple title holder. He has won the British, Commonwealth and World titles. He is now a triple title holder. He has won the British, Commonwealth and World titles. He is now a triple title holder. He has won the British, Commonwealth and World titles.

Rowing
Cambridge reach significant milestone
By Jim Ralston
Oxford started the day yesterday with a touch of pessimism — three men posing for a photograph with an air of defeat. The day two rowers appeared in Duke's Meadow carrying a goalpost on their heads. This was the beginning of a day that would end in a significant milestone for the Cambridge rowing team.

This afternoon Cambridge met the Oxford crew in the final of the 1976 Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race. The race was a close contest, with Cambridge leading for much of the race. In the end, Cambridge won by a narrow margin. This was a significant milestone for the Cambridge rowing team.

sure, to Oxford's hosts for the final two weeks of Boat Race training. Yesterday, with the last launch out of action, Oxford and their reserves were together during the afternoon. Oxford took the full course last Friday, will strengthen their ranks, bringing in their Olympic sculling finalist and the 1974 world champion silver medalist.

ash rackets unt all set to complete a warding lap of honour

Only three of these players have won big tournaments in Britain this season. Horn won the World Championship and the Stockton and Dublin tournaments in addition to four grand prix events. In his absence, Zaman won the last week of the season. After Wembley the biggest prize will be the £3,000 Life Assurance Cup. The prize money is £1,000 for the winner and £500 for the runner-up. The prize money is £1,000 for the winner and £500 for the runner-up.

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Appointments Vacant also on pages 18 and 24

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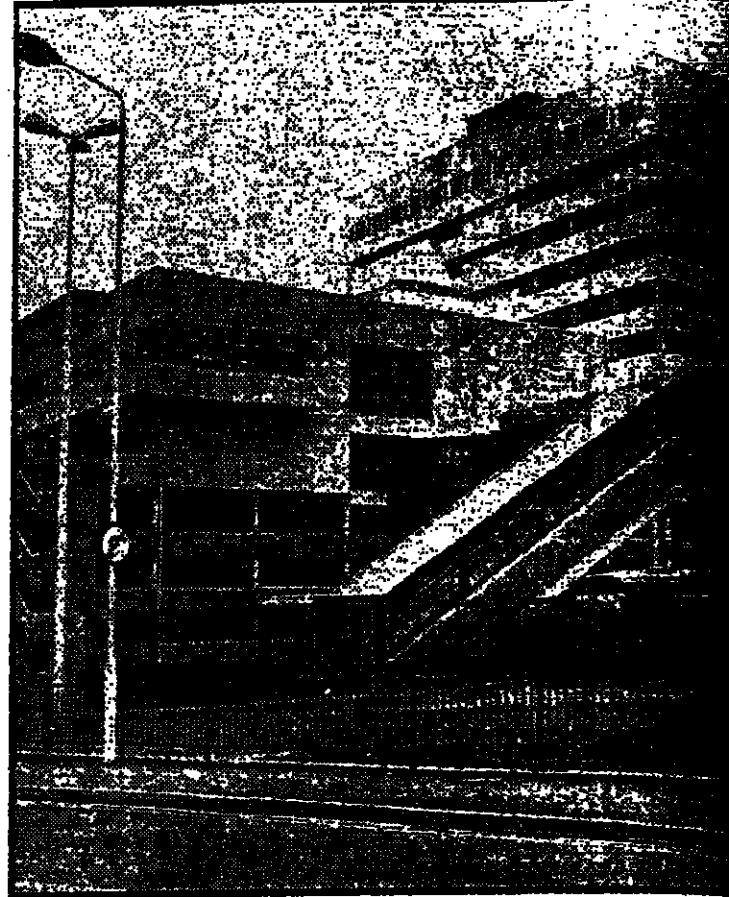
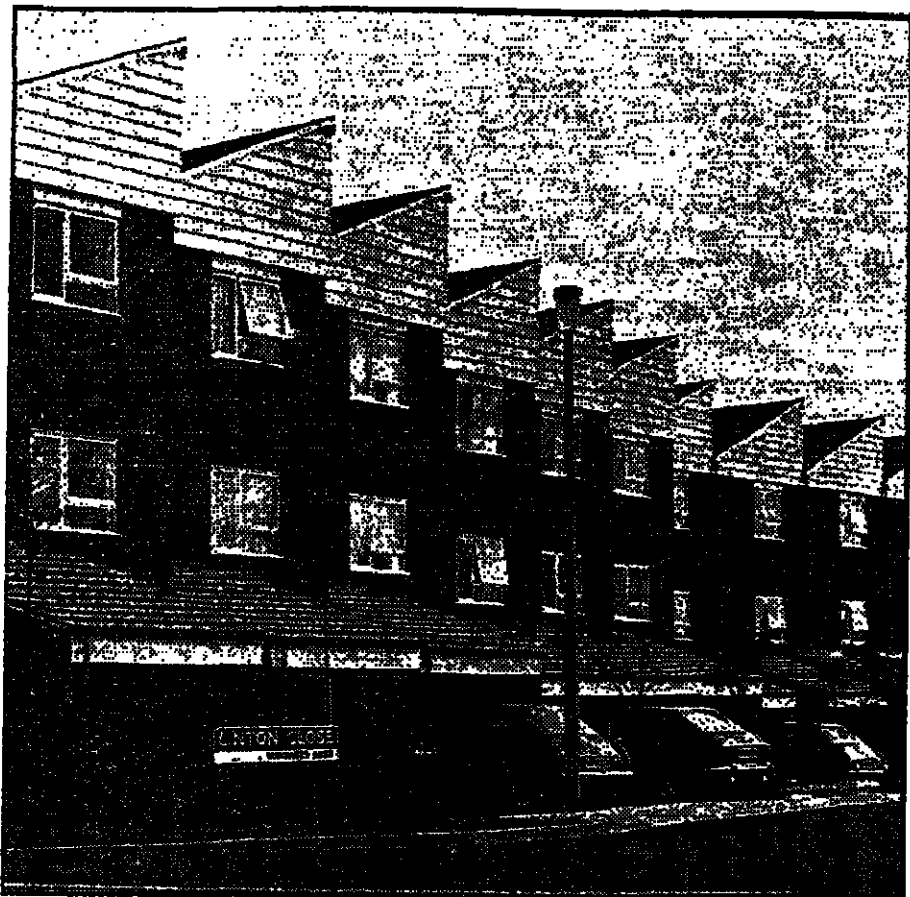
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Redditch



New-style terraced houses at Winyates East; children jostle for position at Icknield County Primary School, Matchborough; Kingfisher shopping centre is "unprepossessing outside but warm, comforting and attractive inside".

From nineteenth-century village to successful second generation new town

by John Young

Needles at Redditch and, for that matter, bats at Luton, shoes at Northampton and possibly, although not probably, boots at Wellington and books at Reading. My mother was a geography teacher, by accident rather than design, and my father would contribute to her misery by quoting such useless pieces of information, cribbed from her notebook or overheard through a classroom wall.

If Redditch was in the United States, it would no doubt proclaim itself on highway hoardings as the "needle capital of the world", or words to that effect. Redditch has few pretensions to grandeur. It strikes the visitor as one of those West Midlands towns where people seem to have settled because it was no worse than anywhere else.

There is more to Redditch than meets the casual eye. It is one of the more successful second generation new towns with a surprising vitality tucked away on the new housing estates which lie hidden from the rather sad little Church Green, the core of the old town and now designated a conservation area.

Redditch's success may be partly because its proponents have tended not to hold grandiose ideas. The expected flood of promotional literature pours out from the publicity department, but on the whole modesty and simplicity prevail. The new housing is outstandingly good and provides an instantly recognizable sense of community. By chance or forethought the architects and builders have somehow contrived to avoid the usual monotony.

Care has been taken to preserve environmental assets like trees and streams. The local meeting places are clearly put to good use, neighbourhood shopping centres are small and inviting, and the main shopping precinct in the centre of the town, although unprepossessing from the outside is warm, comforting and attractive inside and greatly superior to most of them. On a bitter, dank February afternoon, which was the worst time imaginable to see it, Redditch seemed a heartening success for intelligent planning.

The old Redditch grew some time in the nineteenth century from an inconsequential village—it was never an agricultural centre—into an adjunct of the industrial revolution.

The new Redditch was born in 1964, the result of the failure by the Birmingham Corporation to reach satisfactory agreements with the smaller surrounding towns. In those days Birmingham was thought to be threatened by its own prosperity. Unemployment was negligible, office and industrial space was at a premium (compare the empty blocks which now stand in the Bull Ring), and the urgent need appeared to be to provide relief in the form of one or two counter-magnets to attract investment and population growth.

One new town in the West Midlands had already been designated at Dawley in Shropshire (now Telford) but, being basically a rehabilitation project rather than one designed to cope

with expansion, was experiencing difficulty in attracting early private investment. Birmingham, traditionally independent and suspicious of Westminster, was reluctant to concede the need to export jobs and people. The designation of Redditch was by way of a government fait accompli.

The move was not welcomed locally, and relations with the district council, although improving since re-organization, have at times been difficult. The low point came when the council raised objections to planning permission for an office complex which would have housed the European headquarters of a large American insurance company. Although on the best of terms with the development corporation, the Americans refused to come

where they felt they were not wanted, and the missed opportunity still rankles. The dispute appears to have typified the distrust felt by many local authorities towards what they regard as autocratic, undemocratic corporations with privileged powers. Since the insurance company dispute two local councillors have been co-opted on to the corporation's board and there is now a degree of cooperation, particularly on housing matters.

Corporation officials evidently regard the provision of new housing as their most important success. By the end of this year the town, since inception, will be about 6,500 units. Although the balance of about two thirds rented and one third owner-occupied falls short of the fifty-fifty

mix which Mr James Cheshire, the corporation's chairman, would like to see, there has been encouraging participation by housing associations and an emphasis, rare in new towns, on provision for special groups like old people and single-parent families.

The present population is about 50,000 and is expected to reach some 70,000 by the early 1980s. The concentration throughout has been on low-density clusters or "beads" linked by distributor roads. There is attractive open countryside to the south and west, despite its proximity to Birmingham. It lies outside the domain of the West Midlands County Council, in Hereford and Worcester, which bestows a rural-sounding status. Like many new towns, it is bisected by a park, lying

along the valley of the Arrow river, which will eventually contain a 28-acre lake, a golf course and more than 100 acres of playing fields.

However, Birmingham and its surrounding industrial areas inevitably exert their influence. A large proportion of the population commutes either to Birmingham or to the British Leyland works at Longbridge, and Mr Cheshire feels no compulsion to make the town what he describes as an "economic citadel", self-sufficient and independent of outside sources of employment. "In our situation, on the edge of the big industrial conurbation in the country, that just would not make sense", he says. "One of the attractions is that firms can expand here and still use

ADVERTISEM

Redditch—Development Continues on Schedule

By careful exploitation of resources and investments Redditch New Town continues successfully to ride the worst of the country's economic storms and remains firmly on course in pursuit of the targets laid down in the original Master Plan.

Nearly 12 years on since its designation, Redditch is well situated to achieve its 70,000 population target by the early 1980s.

Within this period population has increased from 32,000 to more than 50,000 and throughout the 7,200-acre designated area all schedules have been met in providing the relevant industry, housing, shopping facilities, schools, roads and recreational amenities.

About 8,000 houses have been built and 2,700 are under construction; 37 miles of roads have been built; a £3 million sewage works put into operation; and 12 new schools and school extensions provided.

The growing town is served by an exciting new shopping complex, in addition to 35 shops in residential areas and in the industrial sphere, too, there has been remarkable progress.

More than 240 factory units have been built to date, ranging from 400 sq ft workshops to Halford's custom-built office/warehouse accommodation of 350,000 sq ft.

In total the Corporation has now provided more than 2½ million sq ft of factory accommodation, giving employment to over 6,600 people. It is the Corporation's aim to have built 3 million sq ft of factory space every year.

In addition to those offices associated with factories three office blocks totalling 100,000 sq ft have been built in the town centre and at Ipsley Court, GKN (Contractors) Ltd and GKN (Engineering) Ltd occupy 65,000 sq ft of offices in a parkland setting.

The Second Phase of redevelopment of Redditch's town centre has recently been completed, providing the town with an exciting new shopping complex, combining a bustling outdoor market area with totally enclosed and air-conditioned shopping malls.

The second stage of development, Worcester Square, comprises 32 units, including a 50,000 sq ft Super Woolworths. The first stage, Kingfisher Centre, provided 40 shops, including a 34,000 sq ft Sainsbury's, a public house and a restaurant. The main shopping level is linked by covered footbridge to a 620 space multi-storey car park and, by lift, escalators and ramps to a 130 space car park for shop and office workers and to the new transport interchange comprising bus station and taxi rank and adjacent railway station.

Town centre

The original town centre of Redditch, with its imposing parish church on the green as its centrepiece, has been declared a Conservation Area and will eventually be

closed to vehicular traffic. An announcement on the town's proposed new General Hospital is imminent and the County Council has provided a new health centre adjacent to the existing Smallwood Hospital in the town centre.

Redditch's greatly enlarged College of Further Education can now accommodate 1,230 students; work is proceeding on the new Divisional Police Station and Magistrates' Courts; and linking the old Church Green with the new shopping complex the new County Central Library provides the population with unrivalled facilities in this sphere.

Redditch also boasts the country's third ecumenical centre—shared by United Reform, Methodist and Anglican Churches—which has only recently been occupied.

Amenities

The town's new Arrow Valley Park, totalling 700 acres along the line of the River Arrow, includes a 28-acre lake, land for a golf course and more than 100 acres of playing fields.

Other leisure facilities include the Sports Centre provided by the District Council at the Abbey Stadium, and the Sports complex at the new Leys High School which is available to the public. Catering for culture, the Corporation modernised and refurbished the town's 1913-built Palace Theatre and presented it to the town in 1971.

Emphasizing the Corporation's interest in providing adequate recreational facilities

are the play areas in all the new housing developments. These are designed to suit all ages and include kickabout areas, toddlers' play areas, equipped playgrounds and adventure playgrounds.

Housing

Since 1964 the Corporation has built 4,200 houses for rent and the District Council 610. Private developers have erected a total of 3,100 houses for sale.

The new estates are linked, like beads, on new distributor roads round the periphery of the old town of Redditch and each is served with its own shopping centre, community centre, schools, etc. Attractive landscape features are provided at the centre of each housing estate and the provision of sheltered accommodation for the aged and specialized housing for the handicapped features high on the Corporation's list of priorities.

In addition, the Society of Friends has provided accommodation and a meeting hall for single parent families on the Matchborough Estate and on the town's newest estate, Church Hill, the YMCA is to manage 60 furnished flats on behalf of the Development Corporation as well as providing a social and recreational centre of 420m².

Industry

The Corporation has developed four main industrial estates, which, with small factory centres, have provided a total of 262,561m² of industrial accommodation to date. In addition there is a further 25,400m² under construction and a further 68,000m² at the planning or pre-contract stage.

Industrial provision so far includes the national headquarters of Halford Ltd, and development on the 180-acre Moons Moat industrial estate contains the purpose-built factories for Avon Medicals Ltd and Marubeni-Komatsu Ltd.

Roads

In addition to the roads constructed to serve the new housing and industrial areas the Corporation is building a system of primary roads to motorway standards which will carry traffic across the designated area without interference with the local traffic flow. Some 7.44 kilo-

metres of primary roads have been completed with 540 km still under construction, principally the A166 which will provide a vital link in the primary road system.

Distributor and other roads constructed total 58.61 km, with 6.10 km under construction and the town's Public Transport Route 3.90 km completed and 2 km under construction—is progressing satisfactorily.

And as it enters its 12th year since designation as a New Town, that is the phrase which properly sums up Redditch's condition as moves towards its important goal of relieving overcrowding in the West Midlands conurbation. Progressing satisfactorily!

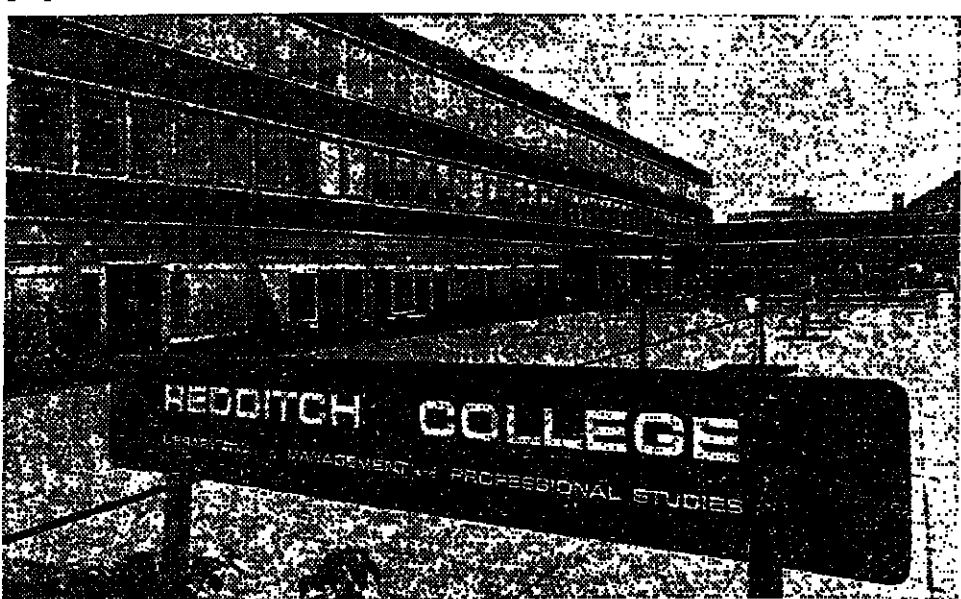
Chairman of Redditch Development Corporation, Mr James Cheshire, FRICS, comments: "Dealing with all the economic problems, the expertise gained by the long-serving Corporation team here at Redditch over the past 12 years enables us to keep satisfactorily to our development targets and there is every prospect that Redditch will continue to develop according to the original schedule."



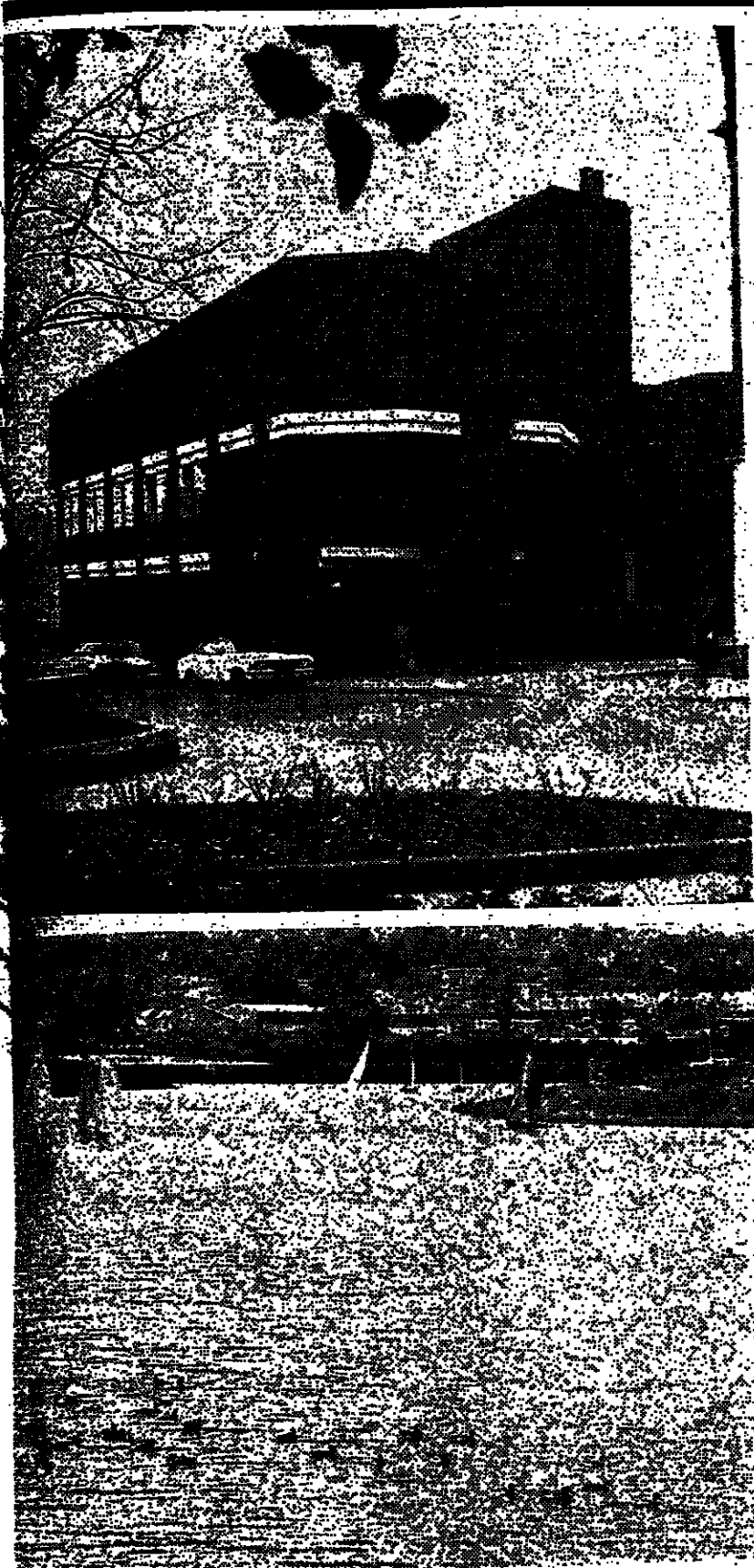
Redditch Development Corporation places great emphasis on the provision of amenities and here youngsters are seen enjoying some of the facilities in one of numerous playgrounds established throughout the town.



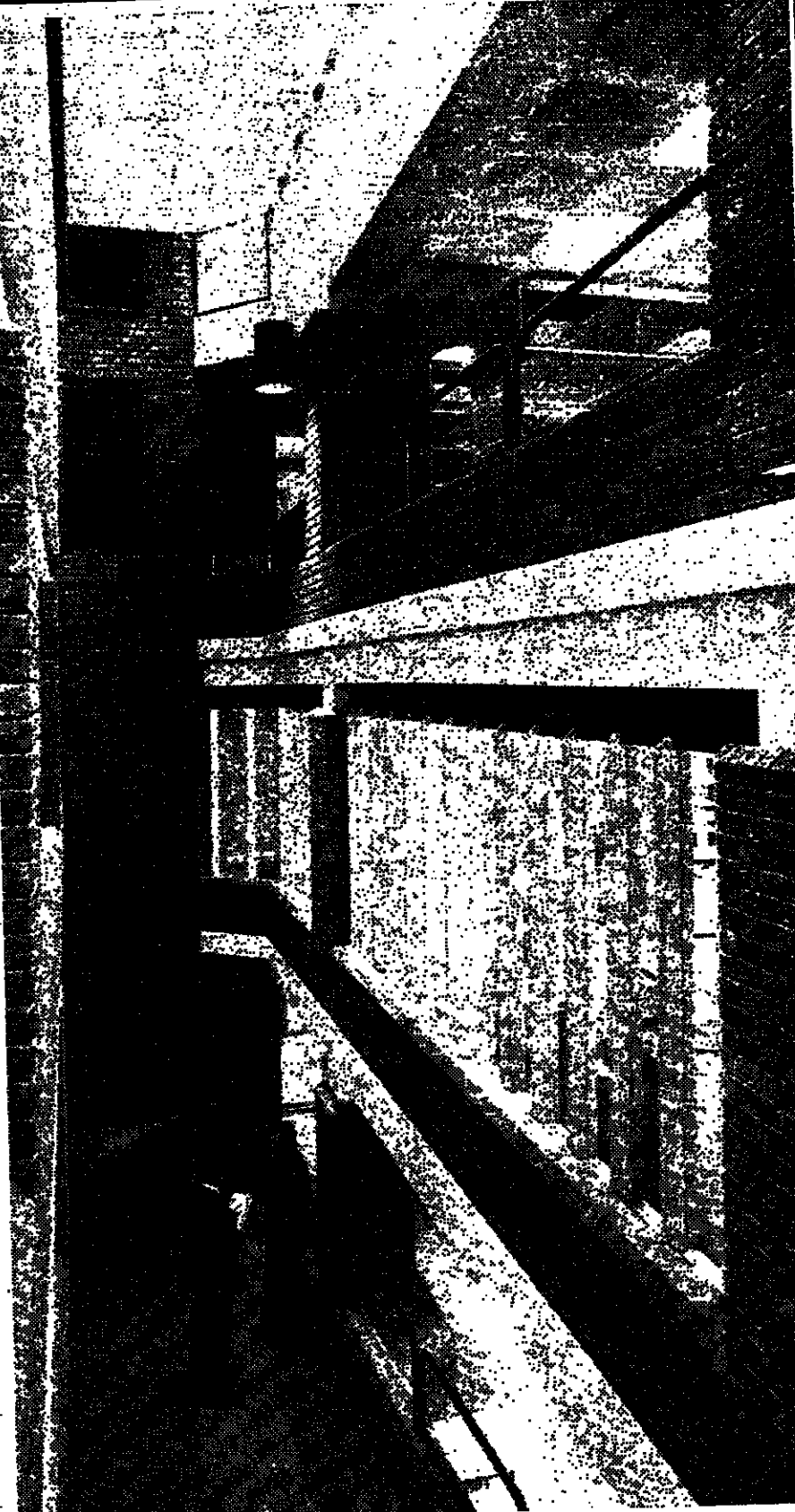
Date palms imported from Spain form a novel and attractive focal point in the Worcester Square area of the town centre redevelopment with its enclosed, air-conditioned environment.



Redditch's recently-extended College of Further Education which can now accommodate 1,230 students.



ing on the Arrow Valley lake, part of the town's 700-acre recreation park. Top and right, the recently opened Redditch lib- designed by the John Madin Design Group, incorporates a series of inter-connecting spaces on 10 levels, linked by steps.



Driving away shoppers' cars

Redditch town centre is about to put its motoring customers to the test. A new transport policy, which came into force at the end of last week, is designed to encourage the use of buses. It means that the private motorist will no longer be the pampered shopper of the new town's early days, and it spells the end of free parking for an initial period in the multi-storey car park. Even more ominous is the warning that ground level car parks in the town centre will be closed to their not.

The squeeze is on against the very people who have given Redditch its reputation as a first class shopping centre. Clearly, the scheme of lower bus fares and more frequent services on local routes requires a big increase in the volume of passengers to succeed.

A denial that there is any intention of forcing people to use a particular means of transport does not disguise the fact that buses must win at the expense of the private car if the standard of the public services is to be maintained.

Random checks on three different days showed that more than 70 per cent of people in the shopping centre had got there by car. They enthused about the facility of pushing a full shopping trolley from the shops to the car on the matching floor six of the multi-storey car park near by—all under cover.

A reduction in car parking generally could bring an influx of custom for the 520 car multi-storey car park to the point of utter chaos. After all, ground level car parks have a 10p charge (a day) which is the same for the multi-storey car park, as far as most shopping is concerned, at 10p for two hours.

The Transportation Steering Group's report makes it clear that action will be taken if any part of the transport package deal does not have the desired effect. Creating resistance among motorists could be undesirable.

Appreciation of the services

It is a tribute to the Redditch Shopping Centre that the unofficial survey showed an appreciation of the services, even though much already provided brought the desire for more. The shopping complex comprises chiefly arcades, with regulated temperatures and real and effective palm trees incorporated into the decor, and an open-air market of its own. It already includes an extensive Sainsbury's supermarket and a recently opened Woolworth superstore, and W. H. Smith and Son are to open later this year.

Modern lighting and attractive display techniques help to make shopping a pleasure rather than a dispirited drudgery. Twenty per cent of the shoppers interviewed came from more than 15 miles away, well outside the recognized catchment area. Mainly they had accompanied their husbands making business calls in Redditch because they liked the town's shopping.

Those from far and near gave either a "good" or "fair" rating to the standard of the Redditch shops. The need for a Marks & Spencer was emphasized with other establishments like British Home Stores getting a mention.

They could be in the Redditch Shopping Centre's phase 2, the first part of which is expected to open by Christmas, 1979. Another multi-storey car park is planned and this phase could also bring much needed improvements in road facilities which need augmenting without being made more lavish since simple lunches and lunchtime snacks form the greatest demand.

Need for more places to sit

Both in the centre and in the adjoining bus station there is a need for more places where people can sit in comfort. I thought I had found the answer in the Swinging Sporan, the shopping centre's inn. Alas, it was not too swiveling as far as drinks were concerned. I asked for a glass of white wine. "We don't serve wine", I was told in a voice that succeeded in dissuading me from asking for anything else.

The Scottish and Newcastle Breweries have earned the widespread approval of beer drinkers by making draught beer available in all their bars and lounge bars, however luxurious. Perhaps they could help those who prefer the grape to the grain.

The open-air market of the Redditch Shopping Centre found favourable comment even if it was not noted for its competitive prices. One stallholder drew a tremendous queue by selling potatoes at 10p a pound, while his competitors charged 12p and stood idle. It was definitely a less leader made up by a bit extra on the other vegetable lines.

On one of the balcony shops overlooking the open-

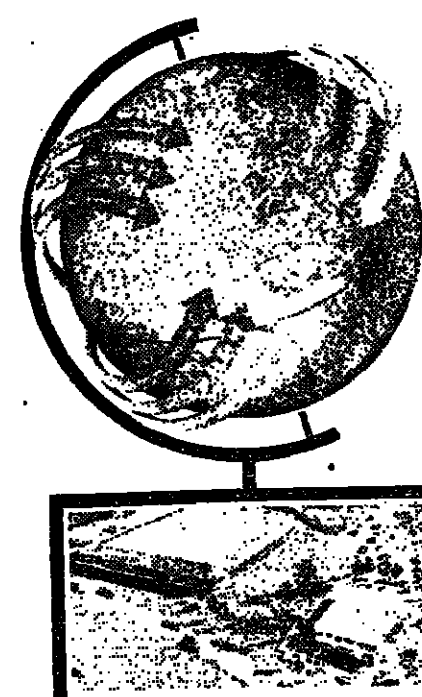
Some of the shops in the Kingfisher centre.

Major companies already in Redditch

GKN Engineering Ltd.	Serck Services Ltd. (National Distribution Centre).
GKN Contractors Ltd.	Hydramat Compressors Co. Ltd.
GKN Alloys Ltd.	D S M Polymers Ltd. (Holland).
GKN Powder Met. Ltd.	Super Ser (Heaters) U.K. Ltd.
Avon Medicals Ltd.	HALFORDS
Marubeni Komatsu Ltd. (Japan).	BAGG
HERBERT	The British Aluminium Co. Ltd.
Herbert Small Tool & Equip. Ltd.	

Details from Norman Moss FRICS Chief Estates Officer

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spacious scale makes public transport vital

comes in transport, which is a greater degree of local travel. Car ownership is likely to be above the national average and parking is seldom a problem, so people use their cars more. Any form of public transport, however efficient, will be almost certainly underused, yet it is a vital necessity for those who would be otherwise isolated in their own housing estates.

The main north-south route, the Alvechurch highway, although well behind schedule, is due to be completed by the end of next year and should largely resolve the present congestion in the town centre. It is crossed at a massive interchange, now under construction, by the east-west Henley highway which will provide a fast link with the M5 motorway to the west. Both are linked to the primary distributor roads, which include a ring route round the centre.

Having, as far as possible, disposed of the problems of through traffic, the planners were able to concentrate on local needs. The new system, announced just before last Christmas, envisaged extended bus routes with more frequent services with the central area will mean the disappearance of empty sites at present used for free car parking; the corporation admits that some new multi-storey parks will be essential but is discouraging long-term parking and is planning its hopes on reduced bus fares for season ticket holders—an encouraging development when fares generally are inexorably rising.

The long-term plan envisages complete pedestrianization of the town centre and fast, direct bus services which will compete in time and cost with the private car. If neither appeals, there is always Shank's pony; a network of footpaths will link the estates and may, in the end, prove quicker and certainly cheaper than either public or private transport.

Redditch's solution, though inevitably not perfect, bears evidence of considerable forethought. The aim has been to separate roads into four categories: through routes, built to motorway or near-motorway standards; primary distributor roads linking the various residential and industrial estates; local distributor roads within the estates; and short cuts reserved for buses.

Redditch's solution, though inevitably not perfect, bears evidence of considerable forethought.

Industry quietly satisfied

by Geoffrey Hancock

The old and the new in industrial Redditch are learning to live together. A classic example of change in harmony is provided by the firm of Herbert Terry and Sons, a name as synonymous with old Redditch as it is with the new. Last year, John Terry, then managing director of the firm and his cousin, Raymond, both grandsons of the founder and each 34 years of age, moved out to start in business on their own account, taking with them the manufacturing staff and assets of the Anglepoise lighting range.

Some 40 members of the Terry lighting production staff went with them. It was not a case of severing family connections because in 1975, Terry was taken over by the Associated Spring Corporation of America. John and Raymond Terry left without a backward glance but with an arrangement for Herbert Terry to supply certain components for the new operation. This plan, it is reported, is working well.

The new Anglepoise factory is on the Enfield estate named after Royal Enfield and its motorcycle activities, now defunct. In view of the decline of the British side of the motorcycle industry, Redditch considers itself fortunate to have more with cars, which must have better prospects, than two-wheelers made in Britain.

British Leyland's interest in Redditch is small at the moment, consisting of a modest car preparation facility for Leyland Cars on the Enfield estate. The long-proposed occupation by Leyland Cars of office accommodation at Grosvenor House, at the top of Prospect Hill, is scheduled to take place this summer. This use by part of the sales and marketing division will not provide jobs for as many as the 600 envisaged originally but local feeling will be grateful for any figure, especially as Grosvenor House has been empty since 1973 and was earning the reputation of being a white elephant.

With the promise of employment for 3,000 people, an engine and gearbox component factory for the Birmingham-based Avon Medicals with special needs which Redditch has been able to provide. The Redditch operation covers artificial kidney filtration and blood transfusion equipment. Ultra clean conditions are required with the components sterilized on site. The present labour force of 50 will grow with expansion for which the factory has spare capacity and spare land for growing still more when required.

Recognizing the need for balanced employment, the development corporation has planned for a total of 600,000 sq ft of office space. So far, two blocks totalling 100,000 sq ft have been completed. Officials say they are reasonably satisfied with progress on the commercial side without being complacent. Thought is constantly given to a balanced economy in which due regard is paid to the industrial, business and community aspects of community life.

They are now advertising the availability of some 4,000 sq ft of first-floor accommodation. Negotiations for a number of parkland office blocks are in progress.

Much that has been done in the industrial development is aesthetically acceptable but if the planners are allowed one mistake the stinging of GKN Contractors and GKN Engineering has used up the reaction town of first-floor accommodation.

The public outcry has died down and the modern concrete buildings were designed to be as inconspicuous as possible. The effect will not be kind to those responsible for putting commercial buildings so close to the thirteenth-century Ipsley Church.

Granted that it was expected at the time and the due processes of law were followed. Granted, too, that it was a big catch for Redditch since GKN Contractors alone manage projects to the value of more than £200m. Without rampant hope that in future neighbours will not be so ill-matched as this. Adding to the depressing picture is Ipsley Court near by which is derelict. No one seems to want the place which adds a further blot to a planning mistake.

The trouble is that errors outlive the people who make them. The fleetness of time is summed up by a record of an Ipsley memorial which had this tribute to a craftsman of old Redditch: Here lies John Cracker, the maker of bellows, Master of his art and king of good fellows. Yet for all that, at the hour of his death, He that made bellows couldn't make breath.

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DATING OUT OF THE SNAKE

key is not the sort of who needs much help himself. It can, as he assumed that he good as he got yesterday, when his fellow ministers questioned the role of sterling in the exchange market. The view is that the franc has fallen in no devaluation, because weakness of sterling and with more than a suggestion last week's fall in was deliberately engineered by the French. Whatever may be said of the tactical adroitness or of the way in which was handled last week, it is insisted that the British policy is to let find its general level to market forces. It is only one reason why it is forced to float out European "snake". It was the same reason which he found itself having to same course in 1972. If the franc had tied itself strong European currency at a level which the balance of payments was enough to support. No of political will and can sustain relative rates which do not to underlying economic question this inevitable has once again done damage. The French and its finance minister have been much of their

personal political reputation on the ability of the franc to "hold its own" with the German mark. European leaders, once again, hoped that the franc and the mark would be the nucleus of a developing monetary union, leading in turn to a closer political union.

President Giscard, in his previous incarnation as finance minister, experienced at first hand most of the international monetary crises of the period since 1968 and was closely involved in the International Monetary Fund negotiations leading up to the general acceptance of floating exchange rates. It is surprising to the point of being incomprehensible that, with this experience, he should have chosen to place his reputation on such a forlorn hope as that the franc and the mark should long be able to float together against the dollar.

From this episode, two conclusions should be drawn. The first is that, although floating exchange rates are well suited to the volatile world economic situation in which we find ourselves, there is still need for international cooperation between monetary authorities.

There is no justification from the events of the past ten days for saying that any major country has begun to indulge in competitive devaluation of the sort that was so damaging between the years. The French claim that the British are pushing sterling down in order to "export unemployment" has the

ring of political frustration.

There is, nevertheless, a real danger that such cut-throat competition could develop, if central banking authorities do not present and strengthen the rules which should govern their open market support operations. These, in turn, should be very clearly confined to "smoothing" market trends and countervailing purely psychological factors. They should not in present circumstances extend to de facto fixing of exchange rates.

The second conclusion is that those concerned with the future development of the EEC must abandon the notion that progress towards the next stage of European political union can be made with monetary union as the stalking horse. The theory has been that, in order to maintain stable exchange rates between European currencies, policies and central banks would be constrained to follow convergent economic policies. Not only, but time after time, the theory has been found wanting at its first test. The vain attempt to promote European unity in this way has consumed damagingly large quantities of political capital and good will. If those who point this out are called "bad Europeans", while self-styled "good Europeans" continue to define advance in terms of the unachievable, there will be no advance. The right course must be to put the horse in front of the cart and to build on the basis of policies that can be both agreed and achieved.

WARNING ABOUT THE WEST'S DEFENCES

by a senior officer of armed forces has concluded that Warsaw Pact forces are capable of launching a surprise attack with conventional weapons upon western Europe, the Rhine within forty hours. This kind of study is unique in itself. Various tests of Soviet capabilities have been made over the years. It is among the most pessimistic of the Soviet advance, says, could be so rapid that 7,000 tactical nuclear as in Europe, always seen important factor in western y, might never be used. time the American President made up his mind on the battlefield should go, it would all be too late. thinking of the report, which made it seem more than his predecessors. emerged when there are doubts in the West about durability of détente. The Union has already shown sensitive it is to this here by his reaction to Mrs her speech on defence in ry. Since then there has the still more emotive range of Solzhenitsyn on a fortnight ago. lary planners have to base future projections upon case assumptions. They to assume that the enemy be blessed with good er, tanks that do not break troops which reach their vious at the appointed y fail to allow for every le contingency when pre the correct posture for ce, they might be held able for ensuing disaster. report is a worst-case option of that kind. issues that NATO divisions flow strength while Warsaw divisions are not—although far from true. It assumes

that the Russians could throw twenty-seven divisions into the first wave of the attack, followed by sixty more within five or six days—which in fact is far from certain. Moreover, most important of all, it assumes that the Warsaw Pact would be able to achieve the essential element of surprise despite western satellite surveillance. True, the Soviet advance, says, could be so rapid that 7,000 tactical nuclear as in Europe, always seen important factor in western y, might never be used. time the American President made up his mind on the battlefield should go, it would all be too late. thinking of the report, which made it seem more than his predecessors. emerged when there are doubts in the West about durability of détente. The Union has already shown sensitive it is to this here by his reaction to Mrs her speech on defence in ry. Since then there has the still more emotive range of Solzhenitsyn on a fortnight ago. lary planners have to base future projections upon case assumptions. They to assume that the enemy be blessed with good er, tanks that do not break troops which reach their vious at the appointed y fail to allow for every le contingency when pre the correct posture for ce, they might be held able for ensuing disaster. report is a worst-case option of that kind. issues that NATO divisions flow strength while Warsaw divisions are not—although far from true. It assumes

Russians were to find themselves in the position of having such overwhelming military superiority in Europe that they could invade western Europe without risk they might, in some unpredictable future situation, be tempted to do so. Even if they are not innately aggressive they tend to expand where they find a vacuum.

It is therefore essential that western Europe should not offer them a vacuum or anything that might be taken for one. This does not mean abandoning the policies loosely identified with the word détente. On the contrary, these policies depend absolutely on maintaining a balance of power. Only people who have misunderstood or misinterpreted them have suggested that they depend on trust, friendship or other intangibles. They do, of course, assume that both sides have an interest in stabilising the balance, preferably at a lower level, but this is to be tested by negotiation, not by unilateral action.

The military balance has sustained peace in Europe for thirty years. Political relations are still very far from good enough to provide a substitute. So far the balance is precariously satisfactory in so far as it matches Soviet quantity with western quality and provides a level of risk adequate to deter aggression. Moreover, the relative decline in western strength has been partly checked in the last twelve months or so. On the other hand thirty years of peace and a lot of ill-informed assumptions about détente have diminished public awareness of the vital role of the military balance in maintaining peace and providing a basis for negotiation. Stimulation of informed public discussion on this topic can do nothing but good.

Fish Conservatives

Mr John D. Lamond
In his article on March 11, Mr Smith has set out some very pertinent points regarding Scottish Conservative Party, as statements concerning the Young Conservatives were erroneous. As he said, "Among the Conservatives in Scotland is not only a strong preference for devolution, but also a preference for a strong form of devolution", as very much mistaken. The Young Conservatives policy of devolution is formulated by the Scottish Conservative Party, and is one of the main pillars of the party, but the general feeling is, and at grass roots level strongly anti-devolution. It is among the Scottish Young Conservatives is formulated by the Scottish Conservative Party, and is one of the main pillars of the party, but the general feeling is, and at grass roots level strongly anti-devolution. It is among the Scottish Young Conservatives is formulated by the Scottish Conservative Party, and is one of the main pillars of the party, but the general feeling is, and at grass roots level strongly anti-devolution.

Party have come round to the realization that the evils of a centrally planned economy are outweighed by its advantages which it may have.

Last year some 18 delegates out of 500 present at the Dundee conference voted against devolution; this year, at a meeting of the Scottish Conservative Party's Central Council, which consists of party members appointed by Mrs Thatcher and their constituencies, the assembled populace voted 103 to 60 for devolution. This vote was made up of party members one would most expect to be the party line. I and other members of the party believe that the conference in Perth in May and the SYC conference in Falkirk in April will both vote resoundingly against a directly elected Scottish Assembly. Yours faithfully,
JOHN D. LAMOND,
6 Wilson Street,
Perth.
March 12.

Abortion and birth rate

From Mr and Mrs N. Jessup
Sir, Professor J. Scarisbrick, in his report evidence to the select committee on the Abortion (Amendment) Bill (The Times, March 9) has attempted to confuse two very different issues. Few people would deny that abortion raises ethical questions which require careful consideration. But this is a quite different matter from that of the falling population. He argues that abortion will be the principal cause of a "population crisis" in the next millennium. A more reasoned approach to the available facts demonstrates that this is not so. The post-war boom led to a situation in which the working population was consistently increasing and consequently could support the resulting expansion of the "non-productive" population which followed. In a country which produces only a fraction of its food and energy

requirements it is self-evident that such a condition must eventually end by one means or another. Just as it is inevitable that a baby boom must end, it follows that when it does, the proportion of elderly people will increase for some years. The longer a nation indulges in this pyramid demography the more severe are the effects of its eventual collapse.

What is most worrying about Professor Scarisbrick's evidence is his proposal that the declining birth rate (which does not necessarily mean a declining population) is a direct reflection of the desire of women to control it and when they have children, they should be able to control it. This is a direct reflection of the desire of women to control it and when they have children, they should be able to control it. This is a direct reflection of the desire of women to control it and when they have children, they should be able to control it.

Professor Scarisbrick's own figures demonstrate that the birth rate continues to decline, despite the falling number of abortions. He must recognize that if he seeks to compel women to bear children against their expressed wish, prohibiting abortion will not produce the desired effect. If this nation wishes to curb the decline in the birth rate it must do so by creating conditions in which women choose to have sufficient children to maintain a stable population, preferably smaller than at present. Professor Scarisbrick and his organization are opposed to abortion for moral reasons and they should be prepared to let their case stand or fall on this basis. Yours sincerely,
WENDY JESSUP,
NORMAN JESSUP,
Ashted, Church Lane,
Baslow, Derbyshire.

MP's commitment to electors

From Sir Thomas Padmore
Sir, We hear more and more about the promises which members of Parliament are held to have made in various ways to those who have elected them. May I say as an elector that the decisive promise which I regard as the most important is that the elector to whom I have helped to elect as having made to me is that he will seek to secure the appointment of a Government from the party to which he belongs; and when that has been achieved will continue to support and sustain that Government, and am not alone. Yours faithfully,
T. PADMORE,
39 Cholmeley Crescent,
Highgate, N6.

From Mr Roy D. Roebuck
Sir, Mrs Maureen Colquhoun, MP, is talking dangerous nonsense when she accuses the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer of having broken the Parliamentary Labour Party's code of conduct by making what she describes as "unparliamentary" remarks in the House of Commons. I, as a member of the House in 1966-70, I made some disobliging references in the chamber to the Leader of the House, the late Mr Richard Crossman, over the Government's proposals about decimal currency (since, one might modestly suggest, abundantly vindicated). Two days later I received a peremptory letter from the parliamentary secretary, Mr John Silkin, who said he was going to report me to the Parliamentary Labour Party Liaison Committee. I left a message for him (in more colourful terms than I had used in the House) to the effect that I would (among other things) raise the matter as a breach of privilege. Subsequently a peace-maker telephoned me and the matter was dropped.

If Mrs Colquhoun thinks that the words used by the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer to castigate her tergiversation were "undignified verbal assaults" then she knows even less political history than I do. I am sure that she can stand the heat of political controversy perhaps she should go back to her kitchen—reporting me to the Equal Opportunities Commission and Mr Ron Hayward on the way. As Lord Clive observed during cross-examination in the "Munich Inquiry" in 1973: "My God, at the moment I stand astonished at my own moderation."

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
ROY ROEBUCK,
15 Old Forge Close,
Stamford, Middlesex.

Farm tenancies

From Mr W. S. Cave
Sir, The Agriculture Bill now before Parliament will give a legal right to certain relatives to inherit the tenancy of a farm—albeit with some safeguards to ensure a reasonable degree of competence.

Those entitled to inherit include adopted sons or daughters but make no mention of a common-law wife or natural children. Thus an elderly tenant farmer without children could ask for and no doubt obtain a considerable sum for adopting a well qualified young farmer. This, however, is a minor point. The more important is whether the new law will completely dry up the number of farms becoming available to let as in fact the Rent Acts have already done with houses to let.

This is already happening. Some landlords are converting some of their farms to limited companies in which they hold 51 per cent of the shares so that they can wind up the company if and when they wish to do so and thus get vacant possession of the farm. In fact, this is almost identical with the system of share farming practised in many parts of the United States.

If we want an efficient low-cost agriculture we should remove some of the restraints which retard development. The most serious of these is the present law on tenancies which automatically turns a lease for a fixed term of years into an annual tenancy. This discourages landlords from letting a farm to a tenant (in contrast to a leaseholder who has not got a 51 per cent interest).

If a fixed term lease were possible I am sure it would be much easier for an individual efficient farmer or farming companies to expand and squeeze out the inefficient whereas the proposals in the new Bill will have the reverse effect.

Yours faithfully,
WILFRED E. CAVE,
The House Farm,
Everleigh,
Marlborough, Wiltshire.

Tax relief for commuters

From Mr G. J. K. Widgery
Sir, I would be interested to know whether many people feel, as I do, that it is time the Chancellor modified the relevant tax provisions so that the Inland Revenue will be able to give some relief to the hard pressed taxpayer towards the ever rising cost of travelling to work by means of the public transport services, or such of them as are still available.

Many people in the larger urban areas have to travel substantial distances to and from their homes to their places of work, and the annual cost of this essential expenditure is now a serious burden and plays its part in driving up the pressure on wage increases.

In my view, it is both logical and reasonable that the essential cost of travelling to and from work should now be allowed as a deduction against gross incomes for tax purposes. This would benefit all sections of the working population, and would afford a little encouragement to those on whose efforts the prosperity of this country depends.

Yours faithfully,
G. J. K. WIDGERY,
4 St Paul's Churchyard, EC4.

Third World bonds with Russia

From Mr N. A. J. Philpot
Sir, The Indian High Commissioner says (report, March 11) that the Soviet Union's anti-colonialism "first in word then in deed" makes the newly independent world "much more sympathetic to the Eastern block than to the Western alliance". Would he kindly inform the (newly independent) world in his Soviet lecture of the extent of the Soviet Union's anti-colonialism in Eastern Europe? Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS A. J. PHILPOT,
13 Pickers Street, SW12.

From Mr T. H. Stewart
Sir, I did not have the pleasure of hearing Mr. B. K. Nehru's Andrew Lang Memorial Lecture in person, but assume that your interesting account of it on March 11 is essentially correct.

I would take issue with Mr Nehru on a number of points. The first is the relative underdevelopment of Russia in relation to the West (presumably represented by Germany, Austria, France, the United Kingdom and the United States in this context). Modern historians, I gather, now tend to view that the difference between all these countries in 1914 was a good deal less than had been previously supposed. Imperial Russia had quite a reasonably developed infrastructure and substantial industrial capacity—approximately equivalent perhaps to the condition of the United States just after the Civil War, some 50 years earlier. You quote Mr Nehru as saying: "The West has so totally forgotten its poverty, and it is so immeasurably richer, that it seems almost incapable of understanding, at least emotionally, the problems, attitudes and feelings of the Third World."

The reason why Russia is different is that it is still essentially a poor country, and the interesting question is why the gap between Russia and the United States has widened so markedly over the past 60 years. The reason, I suggest, is that the rather incompetent Imperial regime has been replaced by an even more incompetent Communist one—and I hope that it is not the Russian Government and economy which excites the fellow feelings of the Third World! I realize, of course, that Russia suffered more severe economic setbacks because of its close involvement in both world wars. But if the Soviet Union had suffered just as badly and made an immeasurably greater recovery, perhaps because of its laissez faire regime after World War Two and certainly because it spent more on domestic consumption and less on guns.

A second controversial point is

Britain and Rhodesia

From Colonel J. R. Hall
Sir, I am writing this letter not in the expectation that you will print it but in order that it may contribute to the evidence you have of growing dissatisfaction with the Government's Rhodesian policy, of which you are a supporter.

Mr McCleery (March 10), apportioning the blame for the tragedy of Rhodesia, has said: "The fault is ours." It is, indeed, and there is little I would add to his perceptive letter beyond this corollary: that it is not Mr Smith's "intransigence" which has bedevilled the policy of successive British Governments: it is their own obduracy and insensibility (reminiscent of an earlier government's response to the UDI of their day) in dealing with a colony which was quarrelling with and in particular their clinging to every detail of the original five principles (in themselves an honourable and even a noble expression of idealism) after events in Africa had proved that they needed no such principles. If those errors, with the imposition of sanctions (which have benefited the West's enemies), were not enough, our present Government, having long condoned terrorism against Rhodesia, are, in effect, now subsidizing

the allegedly anti-colonialist attitude of the Soviets. Imperial Russia collected colonies just as fast as the other imperial regimes—but lacking sea power and because of its geographical position, these colonies were contiguous to Russia, including the Baltic States, Poland, the Crimea, Georgia, Armenia, Uzbekistan and of course the empty wastes of Siberia. The Soviet Union, far from liberating these eighteenth and nineteenth-century colonies, added new ones in the West, the remains of the old imperial rivals, Austria-Hungary and the Ottomans. Finally, there may well be a feeling that the foreign capitalist represented a return to the evil times of imperialist domination and exploitation (your paraphrase), but what is wrong with encouraging the home-grown variety, as the Japanese have done? Yours faithfully,
T. H. STEWART,
28 Panton Street,
Cambridge.

From Mr J. S. F. Parker
Sir, According to the report (March 11) of his lecture at St Andrews, the Indian High Commissioner in London gives among reasons why developing countries feel certain inherent bonds of sympathy with the Soviet Union (1) that in half a century it has advanced "from a state almost akin to theirs" to become one of the two most powerful nations in the world, and (2) "the Soviet Union had always been anti-colonialist". It does not appear that he finds anything needing modification in these two astonishing myths.

Might one therefore ask him when in the past two centuries Russia has not been one of the world's strongest powers, except in the immediate aftermath of defeat in the Crimean and Great Wars? After all, Russian forces took Berlin in 1945, and advanced as far west as Paris in 1915. If it is just the rapid progress of a vanquished state to international hegemony, without regard to how its power and wealth are used, that excites the admiration he spoke of, one might point out that Hitler's Germany achieved the same metamorphosis in less than half the time.

As for Soviet anti-colonialism, has Mr Nehru never asked himself how it is that the Russian Empire, within its nineteenth-century frontiers, still survives in all those vast expanses of Asia to the north and northwest of his own country or whether, had it not been for the interposition of a somewhat less enduring form of colonialism, that country, in whole or in part, might today be the Indostanski SSR? Yours faithfully,
J. S. F. PARKER,
Department of History,
University of York,
Heslington, York.

It—and displaying in the process a strangely sanctimonious callousness to the fate of all Rhodesians, black and white.

Is it not time for the Government to abandon their fury against Mr Smith and to direct all their energies to the task which, as Mr Dobson (February 24) has shown us, ought now, on both ethical and security grounds, to be their main concern: the support of Rhodesia and South Africa (together with any other African states that feel themselves threatened by Communist aggression) against further savagery and possible destruction? Yours faithfully,
J. R. HALL,
45 Church Street,
Great Bedwyn,
Marlborough, Wiltshire.

From Brigadier Lord Ballantrae
Sir, Apart from all other considerations, and whatever the follies and incoherence of the present Government of Rhodesia, I find it intolerable even to contemplate financing activities of their enemies against our own kind and kin. I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
BALLANTRAE,
Auchtermuchty,
Ballantrae, Ayrshire.

For a long time a brilliant, clear and succinct summary of the proceedings in Parliament has been provided on radio, both late at night and early in the morning. There is presented most professionally a plot, a super picture of the essence of what has been said in both Houses.

But the experiment to which listeners were recently subjected when they had to endure the slow and often tedious delivery of those in political party machine who were simply had to turn off the radio rather than suffer the tedium, whereas with the professional summary of "today in Parliament" people are well and clearly informed of the main proceedings in both Houses, which are most adequately condensed into fifteen minute minutes.

So Sir I beg the powers that be to let well alone as we now have it, remembering the true maxim "Deus non vult esse peccatorum deus". "I should like to introduce the broadcasting will only harm the image of Parliament and its members. Yours faithfully,
BERNARD WALEY-COHEN,
60 Cheapside, EC2,
March 15.

representatives of a Dutch humanitarian delegation and of the International Human Rights Federation, that Kurdish schools are being closed gradually and systematically all over Iraq. Kurdistan and that Arabic schools are replacing them.

4. The offer of financial incentives for mixed marriages between Arabs and Kurds was announced by the Minister of Education in a speech at the opening of Sulaimaniya University last September. The KDP is not of course opposed to mixed marriages as such, and nor we feel sure is The Times. But it should be obvious that in present circumstances the offer of financial incentives is likely to arouse racial hatred rather than to allay it.

We note however that the ambassador does not deny the inhuman mass deportations from Kurdistan (a name he avoids using, preferring to call our land "the north") to the southern deserts, in the course of which hundreds of women and children have died from exposure. Such actions are clearly not directed only against a small group of Kurdish dissidents, but against the whole Kurdish nation and the survival of its culture. Yours sincerely,
J. ALLI,
Kurdistan Democratic Party,
International Relations Committee,
PO Box 129,
00170 Helsinki 17, Finland.

spell economic ruin to the United Kingdom, whose very life blood depends on foreign trade. In particular, it is of paramount importance to the people as a whole—to its standard of living—that its traders and manufacturers buy goods or pay for services from abroad where these can be obtained most cheaply: both to conserve foreign exchange obtained by its exports, and to keep down prices of finished goods sold in the United Kingdom.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
A. J. PETTIT,
150 Palace View,
Bromley, Kent.

Leaving aside this attempted usurpation of power properly belonging elsewhere, and the colossal impudence of Sogat, this policy "written large" would surely

Administration of National Parks

From Lt Col Gerald Haythornthwaite
Sir, Since the passing of the 1972 Local Government Act which gave undue control to county councils in eight of the ten National Parks, there have been ominous instances of direct interference by county councils in the decisions of National Park authorities to the detriment of the purposes for which National Parks were established. Also, in the case of one of the National Park Boards, the Peak District, where the county councils have no opportunity to intervene directly, pressure has been applied to county council members to have prior regard to the interests of the county councils.

An attempt was made by Derbyshire County Council recently to remove one of their appointed councillors from the Peak Park Planning Board because he was considered to be conservation minded. Although this attempt was defeated by a High Court action, Derbyshire County Council are now canvassing the other constituent county councils in the Peak District to press the Secretary of State to revise the Order establishing the Peak Park Joint Planning Board to allow them to replace members appointed by them if they do not toe the county line. South Yorkshire County Council have also agreed to support Derbyshire County Council. The leader of South Yorkshire County Council has proclaimed that "if someone does not follow the policies of the body which appointed him he should be removed".

It should be made abundantly plain to the county councils that their appointed members to the National Park authorities are not to promote county council interests but to plan and manage the National Parks according to the statute for the benefit of the nation. The nation, through the Exchequer, now bears the greater proportion of the cost of planning and managing National Parks. It follows therefore that the nation's interests in National Parks should be appropriately secured. This can only be done by affecting the National Parks the autonomy enjoyed by the Peak District and Lake District Parks and ensuring that the county council appointees to National Park authorities are not in peril of being replaced if they do not toe the county council line. It is therefore a consideration also whether there should be a greater proportion of Secretary of State appointees to National Park authorities, at present two-thirds of the membership are appointed by the county councils and one-third by the Secretary of State.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,
GERALD HAYTHORNTHWAITE,
Chairman, Standing Committee on National Parks,
4 Robert Place, SW1,
March 9.

Broadcasting Parliament

From Sir Bernard Waley-Cohen
Sir, Along with very many other members of the public I deeply regret the steady inexorable progress of the plot to restrict live, and even televised, the daily proceedings of Parliament in both Houses.

Tragically the decision appears to rest with the politicians themselves who have for so long kidded themselves that the plot was not real, and even televised, the daily proceedings of Parliament in both Houses.

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BERNARD WALEY-COHEN,
60 Cheapside, EC2,
March 15.

'Dear Reverend'

From Mr Arthur Bond
Sir, As a boy in a solicitor's office I was taught that a clergyman one knew and liked was addressed as "Dear Vicar" or "Dear Rector". If one disliked him or did not know him well enough to form a view one said "Reverend Sir" unless his help was needed in which case one said "Dear and Reverend Sir". It seemed to work very well.

At home at the manse where I was asked "Is the Reverend in?" were usually gentlemen who had already been to the Presbytery but decided that, on this one occasion, and strictly off the record, they would like a second opinion. Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR BOND,
5 Lincolns Road,
Wetherby.
March 12.

From Mr Peter du Sautoy
Sir, I learnt from T. S. Eliot, the poetest of men, that letters to clergymen one does not know personally should begin "Reverend Sir". Yours faithfully,
PETER DU SAUTOY, Chairman,
Faber and Faber Ltd,
3 Queen Square, WC1,
March 12.

AINC
tomorrow's
BUILDING, CIVIL
INDUSTRIAL
ENGINEERING

Clear power key points to ure shortage of minum supplies

Vielvoxe
respondent
ing of "formidable
in ensuring there is
enough fuel for the
of nuclear power
ext 25 years is given
nt report by the
on for Economic
n and Development's
Energy Agency and
ational Atomic
gency.

severe problems might
the longer term, the
ys, because of the en-
dustrialized countries
ng on nuclear power
electricity develop-
programmes.

of the pessimism in
ort arises from a survey
car power programmes
Nuclear Energy Agency
tows that between 1990
0 the amount of nu-
clity could be more than

t the demands on
duction facilities
litions to reserves
st triple within the
years. Efforts to
loration would be
e industry adopted
t effort, the report

s the only primary
ce where the
e classed according
of extraction. After
old increase in the
extraordinary costs of \$15
have replaced \$10 a
the upper limit for
reserves.

ing the cost range has
push the figure to
around \$120 a tonne
ompared with \$85,000
a 1973. But, the report
here will be a require-
ment for four million tonnes
0) and about 10 million
by 2025. Even if all
low grade higher costs
ces were added to the
these long-term targets
not be met.

report says there is no

Concessions Land & Bill

Parliamentary Staff
Government is to make
or changes to help
al development as the
ment Land Tax Bill
rough Parliament.

il provided the ability
tax can be deferred
panies are carrying
trial development on
a land.

ll, Paymaster General,
ed when he made the
reading of the Bill last
that the deferred charge
d not become payable when
development was disposed
of sale or lease-back, but
y if the owner subsequently
the property or ceased to
it for qualifying industrial
pos.

Mr Dell said the amendments
ld recognize the high inter-
rates payable on loans to
the land.

Timothy Raison, Opposi-
tion spokesman for the Environ-
ment, welcomed the announce-
ment as helpful but could not
see a kind word for which
he characterized as ex-
tractable, nor for the Govern-
ment's general approach
to the use of "draconian"
is approach had failed in
and, he forecast, would
s fail, like any total coun-
try scheme.

Parliamentary report, page 7

Sugar sales to Russia upset market

By Wallace Jackson
Committee Editor
Conflicting reports about the
amount of raw sugar bought
from the Philippines by the
Soviet Union upset the London
sugar market yesterday.

According to the government-
owned Philippine Exchange
Company, the sale totalled
400,000 tonnes, as reported in
Business News yesterday. But
Producers, the Soviet import
and export organization, said
that only 200,000 tonnes had
been bought "and not a gramme more".

The London market had
opened below Friday after-
noon's levels of \$186 a long ton
for May and \$185 for August
and the Moscow statement
caused the market to edge still
lower. By mid-afternoon the
two positions were at \$180 per
long ton in each case.

At the close, the May price
was \$181.40 and August was at
\$181.55, declines of 5.475 and
5.475 on Friday's close.

The Producers' statement
said that the Soviet Union had
covered all its sugar needs for
1976 with purchases from
several countries, including
Cuba and other socialist coun-
tries, and from the Philippines.

French employers and unions depressed by floating franc

From Richard Wigg
Paris, March 15

France's principal employers' organization, Patronat, today blamed "a lack of sufficient solidarity" by France's part-
ners in observing the Rambouillet summit monetary agreement for causing the Government's decision to float the franc.

The employers' body said it regarded leaving the European
snake as this "inevitable", but obviously did not like it and expressed the hope the floating
would only be of short duration.

The Patronat's reaction was
one of several by French busi-
ness circles which were gloomy
and saw the exporters' advan-
tages as doubtful while the dis-
advantages were more obvious.

President Giscard d'Estaing's
decision to reject the snake
last July, which M Jean Pierre
Fourcade, France's finance
minister, objected to then has
in the past aroused reservations
in business circles owing to its
obvious political motivation.

France's annual petrol bill,
taking a 5 per cent effective
devaluation will go up, it is
estimated, by some \$2,500m
(about £1,250m). As with other
raw material imports the risk
for France is the tendency for
a new twist to inflation which,
in 1975, required further
controls and so set back the
economic recovery.

The Patronat, which got out
a quick statement, proclaimed
its "profound attachment" to
the existence of a "stable and
strong franc" and issued a
veiled warning to the govern-
ment over the risks of a relaxa-
tion of internal disciplines as
the franc floats.

The Patronat in apportioning
its blame spoke of the "under-
valued" German mark and the
"collapse" of sterling and the
Italian lire. Without a strong
and stable franc it saw no du-
rable chances for reestablishing
the French economy in world
trade.

As the Markets closed today
the franc was floating at be-
tween 3 and 4 per cent below

its value last Friday, having
fallen to 5 per cent earlier in
interbank transactions.
The dollar closed at 4,705
francs, against 4,555 last Friday
and the mark at 1,835 francs
against 1,764. The pound in
early trading was exchanged
at 9,155 francs against 8,915
Friday but came down to 9,065
as markets closed.

While experts said they
reckoned it would take some
days, even longer, before the
market positions became clear,
Forecasts were for 1,800 francs
to the Deutsche mark and 4.80
to the dollar.

President Giscard d'Estaing
will be seeing M Fourcade on
his return from Brussels con-
ferring tomorrow together with M
Bernard Clappier, the governor
of the Banque de France.

The French Socialist Trade
Union Confederation today
vigorously attacked floating the
franc, describing it as a devalua-
tion "hours after the national
elections" which would not
help employment opportunities
in France.

German relief at avoidance of formal mark revaluation

From Peter Norman
Bonn, March 15

West Germany did its best
today to put a brave face on
France's decision to leave the
European currency snake.

Dr Armin Grünewald, deputy
government spokesman in Bonn,
told a press conference that the
federal government laid great
value on the fact that the joint
European float would be con-
tinued and kept ready for an
eventual return of the franc.

He said that Bonn still

regards the joint float as an
important starting point for
European economic and mon-
etary union.

Dr Grünewald disclosed that
West Germany had been pre-
pared to revalue the mark as
part of a general correction of
currency relationships within
the snake. Although he did not
give details, he made it clear
that the scale of revaluation
offered was very modest.

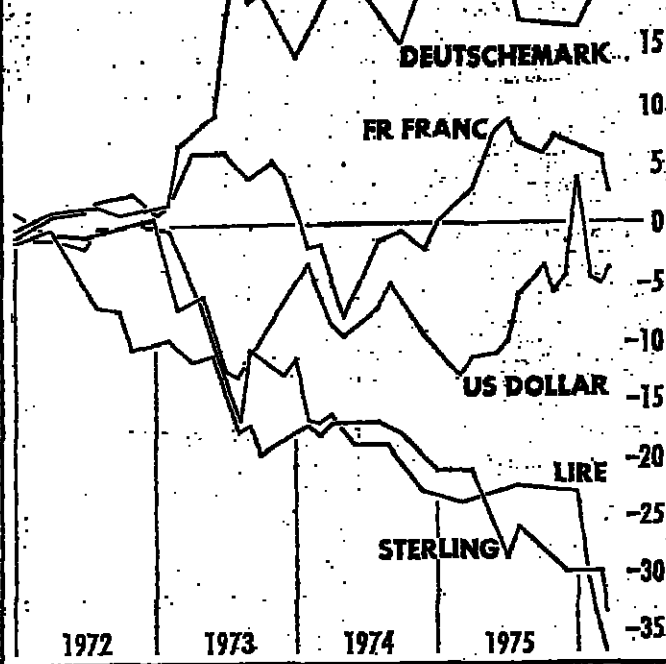
In private, government offi-
cials were clearly relieved that

the crisis had apparently passed
without a formal mark revalua-
tion. The decision of the French
government to leave the
currency block, although regret-
table from a European stand-
point, was seen as less of a
blow to Germany's export
prospects.

Herr Otto Schlecht, state
secretary at the Economics
Ministry, was understood this
afternoon to tell his EEC
colleagues in Brussels that the
French measures in their pre-

HOW CURRENCIES HAVE MOVED

changes in the effective rates since 21 Dec '71
(the Smithsonian Agreement)



Council fund to take equity stakes in local firms

By Richard Allen

What might be the first grass
roots "equity" bank was
unveiled by Sir Ron Ironmonger,
leader of South Yorkshire
County Council.

The plan involves the coun-
cil's pension fund offering to
invest in local industry to the
tune of £2m in return for equity
stakes in small but sound com-
panies based in the region.

The scheme is the brainchild
of Sir Ron—one of the three
council-appointed trustees of
the county superannuation fund
—and will be run by the
Labour-controlled council ad-
vised by County Bank, the mer-
chant banking arm of National
Westminster Bank.

The project, to be called the
County Regional Investment
Scheme, represents around 5
per cent of the county's fund,
and the council envisages in-
vestment being made available
to companies earning perhaps
£50,000 a year before tax.

"I think this will be the first
example of its kind of direct
investment in profitable indus-
try. It means that the small
companies in the South York-
shire area with ambitious profit-
able schemes for growth, giving
prospects for employing more
men and women, will have an
additional means of bringing
their schemes to fruition."

Mr D. R. Chynoweth, the
county treasurer, said that all
council funds for investment
would be on strictly commercial basis,
and no loans would be made on
political grounds.

Investment would not involve
taking a majority stake in the
company, but the fund's hold-
ings should be large enough to
ensure that the views of the
fund's advisers are taken
fully into account by the board
of directors.

According to the treasurer,
no companies have been singled
out for cash injections so far,
though "the local chambers of
commerce are very enthusias-
tic."

Under the scheme, the county
council will identify suitable
companies and leave the
County Bank to assess the
viability of subsequent pro-
posals for either straight loans
or equity takes.

Asked why sound companies
should not be able to obtain
loans, Finance Minister Mr
Chynoweth said that the fund's
advisers believed several poten-
tially strong companies could
"slip through this net."

He added that the scheme
would definitely not involve the
superannuation fund in support-
ing lame ducks.

A spokesman for County
Bank, which is among the
advisers of the pension fund
trustees said, however that re-
latively few applications for
aid were likely to be success-
ful.

Cheap Soviet oil for US 'unlikely'

Washington, March 15.—Mr
Elliot Richardson, the Com-
merce Secretary, said there was
little chance of the Soviet Union
selling oil to the United States
at favourable prices. He said he
was "unimpressed" by the
United States had formally
asked the USSR to let it have
oil at below the rates fixed by
the Organization of Petroleum
Exporting Countries.

Last October, the USSR and
the United States agreed to a
supply line of 10 million tons
per annum for a five-year
period, but details of the deal
were left outstanding. Negotia-
tions resumed a few weeks ago
in Washington and are con-
tinuing—Agence France-Presse.

Sides meet on Chrysler agreement

By Edward Townsend

Senior management from
Chrysler UK and the national
officials of 12 trade unions yester-
day began discussions in
Whitehall on the content of
what is one of the first planning
agreements between Govern-
ment and industry.

Negotiation of such an agree-
ment was one of the conditions
of the Government's rescue
package for the car company.
That package, which commits
up to £162.5m of public funds
over the next four years, will
form the basis of the planning
agreement.

Yesterday's talks were de-
scribed as preliminary and will
be followed by more detailed
discussions. Among the issues
Chrysler wants formalized in
the agreement are wage struc-
tures, detailed productivity
levels and production targets.

Mr Peter Griffiths, Chrysler
UK's deputy managing director,
led the company's team of six
executives at the meeting with
Department of Industry offi-
cials. The union officials repre-
sented Chrysler's white collar
and shop floor workers, and the
two parties were welcomed by
Mr Gerald Kaufman, Minister
of State at the department.

Chrysler is hoping to revive
its worker participation scheme,
which could involve the appoint-
ment of two employees to the
board of directors, and have in-
cluded as a clause "the plan-
ning agreement."

Mr Griffiths and other man-
agement officials will be join-
ing Mr Gilbert Hunt, the
Chrysler UK chairman, and Mr
Don Lander, managing director,
for another set of questions to-
morrow from the committee of
MPs which is investigating the
rescue package.

Much of this week's session
could be held in private.

Brentford Nylons link

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Jeffrey Port, a Yorkshire-
based organization which has
specialized in the auctioning
of low-price consumer durables at
public halls, has made an
unusual sales deal with the
Receivers of Brentford Nylons,
the collapsed household tex-
tiles group.

The Port organization said
yesterday that negotiations had
been completed for the injec-
tion of a wide variety of con-
sumer durables into the 70
Brentford Nylons shops.

A spokesman for the organi-
zation said there would be low

prices on branded goods, in-
cluding hi-fi, electrical appli-
ances and general household
products. They would not be
auctioned.

Mr Port, who was away yester-
day, seems to have suffi-
ciently impressed the joint
Receivers of Brentford Nylons,
Mr Kenneth Cork and Mr John
Naylor.

Apparently they regard the
scheme as a pilot one although
an agreement in principle has
been reached to extend it if
successful. Sales by the Port
organization will at first be only
at one Brentford shop at Crown
Hill, Croydon.

Brentford will take a percent-
age of the Port takings.



The following is the statement by the
Chairman, Mr. R. C. H. Overton:

In order to combat sales resistance to price increases during the year, we
reduced our profit margin and succeeded in producing an increased turnover
sufficient to achieve profit figures similar to the previous year. As nearly as
makes no difference, I am glad to be able to add that sales have been
consistently better during the first four months of the current year than during
the corresponding period last year.

In view of the results before you and our current trading, your directors
have pleasure in recommending that the ordinary dividend be increased by about
10 per cent, the maximum permitted amount. We therefore propose a final
ordinary dividend of 2.17p per share.

During the past year all the company's personnel have been very busy and
turned out good work. On behalf of the Board, I thank them most sincerely.
The Annual General Meeting will be held on April 12th in London.

Hopes of spending revival dimmed by decline in retail sales

By Tim Congdon

Retail sales declined in
February. The volume of sales
was more than 2 per cent down
from the January level, accord-
ing to provisional figures re-
leased yesterday by the Depart-
ment of Industry.

The fall contradicts sug-
gestions that a revival of con-
sumer spending may be about
to begin. It also implies that
the high rate of personal sav-
ings, which has been largely
responsible for the recession,
is continuing.

Consumer spending is being
closely watched at present for
signs that the relaxation of hire
purchase restrictions by the
Chancellor in December may
encourage a burst of expendi-
ture on consumer durables.

If such expenditure did
develop it would add to demand
in the economy and might help
reverse the recession to an end.
The Department of Industry
notes that the comparatively
high level of retail sales in
January may have been due to
strong interest in "sales" and
some response to the easing of
hire purchase restrictions. The
decline in February may be to
the detriment of a sustainable level.

In the three months from
December to February the

volume of sales was 21 per cent
above that in the previous three
months.

The low point for retail sales
was touched in the summer and
autumn of last year when they
were as much as 5 per cent
beneath their peak levels of
end-1974.

Most economic forecasts are
that consumer spending in
1976 will be unchanged or
slightly lower than in 1975. In
the last forecast, the London
Business School, one of the most
respected of the forecasting
units, predicted that consump-
tion will be 0.2 per cent down
this year.

Although retail sales con-
sidered only the volume of con-
spending they are regarded as a
fairly reliable advance indica-
tor of the larger total.

February's figures would be
roughly consistent with the
economic forecast, because
they showed retail sales to be
about 1 per cent beneath their
average 1975 level.

However, the outlook might
be changed by a strongly re-
flationary Budget. At the
moment this seems unlikely and
share rises in consumption
seems possible only if the sav-
ings ratio falls significantly
from its present high level.

ABC Bakery may cut 400

By Patricia Tisdall

Talks which will result in
"several hundred" workers at
the ABC Bakery in Camden
Town, London, being made
redundant are taking place.

Mr Peter Davies, the execu-
tive chairman of Allied
Bakeries, ABC's parent com-
pany, said last night that a
final assessment had not been
made, but unofficial estimates
put the figure at more than
400.

The talks stem from a deci-
sion to drop production of
small hand finished cakes as
part of a general cost-cutting
and modernisation drive. Pro-
duction is to be switched to
different and more profitable
bakery products.

Mr Davies said the group had
no plans to close all of its 200
ABC catering and retail bakery
outlets.

The Ryder report emphasized
the urgency of integration in
this sector. It said: "We
believe that the creation of a
single product planning group
is an urgent preliminary step
in the reorganization of BL's man-
ufacturing structure. We have
detailed proposals for this
organization of this group
which will be made available to
the new management."

refused to handle transferred
components and were sent
to a remanufacturer walked
out in protest.

Last December the three
departments were merged into
one engineering and product
planning division under Mr
Spencer King, the former
Rover's engineering chief.
In practice, however,
only nominal rationalization has
been possible because of the
attitudes of the three groups.

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the new management."

not account for more than 5 per
cent of the bank's total loans,
and loans in any other single
country do not exceed 7 per
cent of total loans.

Citicorp adds that experience
has shown that losses on foreign
commercial loans have tended
to be lower than on United
States commercial loans, and
that the bank's exposure is also
reduced abroad to some extent
by the fact that local currency
lending accounts for fully 71
per cent of its total loans.

The growth in the bank's
foreign business has been rapid,
and this has led to speculation
about the wisdom of vast
foreign exposure that make
today's explanations so im-
portant. The report shows that
while United States operating
earnings last year were exactly
the same as in 1973 at \$102m,
the rise in foreign earnings in
the two years has been spec-
tacular.

Earnings, for example in
the Canadian and Caribbean
area rose from \$27m in 1973
to \$44m in 1975; earnings in
Europe rose to \$58m from
\$38m (despite a loss at Grind-
lays Bank in 1975 of \$26m).

In addition, Citicorp reveals
that it has a policy of ensuring
diversity in its loan operations.
Loans to any single industrial
sector in the United States do

Citicorp defends foreign lending

From Frank Vogl

US Economics Correspondent
Washington, March 15

In a quite unprecedented
move, Citicorp, the parent
company of New York City
bank, devotes a large part of
its new annual report to out-
lining the systems it uses to
supervise its foreign business.

The multitude of statistics
that Citicorp has published may
well serve their intended pur-
pose of ending speculation that
this giant bank could face
serious difficulties as a result
of its vast volume of outstand-
ing overseas loans.

Citicorp, which recently
reported an 11 per cent in-
crease in 1975 earnings to
\$348m (about £173m), despite
\$299m of loan losses, noted that
fully 70 per cent of its earn-
ings are on foreign business.

Average overseas loans last
year rose by 34 per cent to
\$18,700m with foreign net
interest revenues rising by 60
per cent to \$927.8m.

Citicorp's international busi-
ness is larger than that of any
other single banking institution
in the world yet, despite a host
of newspaper reports suggest-

ing that the bank's exposure to
developing countries that face
economic problems is great, the
facts show a different picture.
The report notes that of Citicorp's
exposure in developing
countries 96 per cent is con-
centrated in oil exporters and
higher- and middle-income coun-
tries. Loans to the 30 countries
in the lower-income category
account for only 1 per cent of
Citicorp's worldwide portfolio
of \$35,460m.

Further, Citicorp points out
that it has a series of special
"systematic processes" in place
to monitor constantly foreign
loans at both local and head-
office levels, and that the bank
has never in its history experi-
enced a loss where a loan has
been guaranteed by a central
bank.

The bank also has special
country-risk evaluation pro-
cesses, including means of reduc-
ing or even suspending country
loan ceilings and loan maturity
ceilings.

In addition, Citicorp reveals
that it has a policy of ensuring
diversity in its loan operations.
Loans to any single industrial
sector in the United States do

How the markets moved

The Times index: 168.71 -0.12
The FT index: 410.2 +0.2

SES		THE POUND	
glo Am Ind	25p to 532p	Bank	Bank
Am Ind	4p to 365p	Australia	1.60
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Austria	1.34
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Belgium	1.25
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Canada	1.89
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Denmark	11.85
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Finland	7.40
Am Ind	2p to 365p	France	9.30
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Germany	4.90
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Greece	6.30
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Hong Kong	6.50
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Italy	9.50
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Japan	160.00
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Netherlands	58.00
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Norway	5.30
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Portugal	10.50
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Spain	57.00
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Sweden	2.35
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Switzerland	124.75
Am Ind	2p to 365p	USA	124.75
Am Ind	2p to 365p	Yugoslavia	35.50

Equities started the week firmly.
Gilt-edged securities got back early
invests.
Sterling was down 25 points on
1,925.0. The "effective devalua-
tion" rate was 33.3 per cent.

In other pages		Wall Street	
Business appointments	21	Share prices	22
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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Firm but business falling away

With sterling presenting a firmer face and the disappointing trade figures largely forgotten, shares made a firm start to the second week of the account.

But dealers are still concerned by the stiffness of business and for the first time in the account bargains fell below 7,000. To their credit, leading shares were not unduly affected by the sharply lower opening on Wall Street—a considerable influence of late—and at the close the FT Index stood at 410.2, just 0.2 better than last Friday's level.

Oil-edged stocks rallied to

part opening losses of one quarter back to one eighth. After a shaky start small buyers were enough to bring gains of a couple of pence to most of the "blue chips". Typical were ICI 40½p and Glaxo 37½p, both 2p ahead, with Comtrel's a point better to 15½p and Unilever unchanged at 45p. Once again British American Tobacco, reflecting overseas and export earnings, proved to be the best going ahead 4p to 368p.

Firms were active in their

rights form, with the old at 36½p and the new quoted at 28p premium after 23p. General uncertainty and advance comment on the sector combined to bring a bad day for the banks. The way was led down by Barclays, which gave up 10p to 27½p, but Midland 27½p and National Westminster 24½p were both 8p lower and Lloyds, at 22½p, ended three points off. The new list 3p to 10p, and were active.

In a generally weaker insurance pitch, Commercial Union lost 5p to 13½p and were the worst, but Royal managed

A. A. Jones & Shipman, the machine tool group, report annual profits tomorrow. The shares have risen to a 1975-76 peak of 81p on thoughts that profits will be at least £1.3m last year against just over £1m. If so, the group would have done better than the chairman indicated in a cautionary interim bulletin.

to firm a couple of pence to 350p and insurance brokers Leslie & Godwin 127p, Minet 115p and Matthews, Wiganston 19½p all traded firmly and even gained a couple of pence here and there. Elsewhere UDT were a penny easier at 28p, while Standard Chartered Bank came back 8p to 362p. Property shares gave every sign of shaking off last week's ADI liquidation and the best were Great Portland 23½p, Berkeley Hambro 12p and Haslemere 19½p, all 4p ahead, and Sunley, up 3p to 135p.

As the day progressed gold shares went better with the

metal price. Among the best gains were East Driefontein 50p to £7.62, General Mining 75p to £18.75, and St. Helena £1.75 to £19.50. Australians were in good form with MIM up 8p to 24½p and Bako Walsend 5p to 54½p, but Lonrho came back 3p to 11½p in line with the general trend.

Oils were dull and the majors like Shell 6p to 416p and BP 5p to 600p ahead of results, gave ground. The rights issue continued to unsettle Ultramar, where the decline was of 7½p to 162½p.

Isolated firm spots saw Weyburn Engineering go ahead another 20p to 640p. Letraset 5p to the good at 79p, Peter Brotherhood ahead by 8p to 88p, British Vita better by 8p to 94p and Adams Food by 5p to 32p, the last two on favourable week-end comment in shipping. Rescon Smith "A" continued to be troubled by drilling rig problems and ended 20p down to 175p while news of an impending law suit did nothing for John James which closed 3p weaker at 26p.

United Scientific, with its good export order book, continued to be supported at 125p, up 4p, while there was also interest in Albright & Wilson, considered to be more inflation-proof than most and which gained 2p to 100p.

In stores, House of Fraser 89p is thought to be the next group to follow Debenhams 95p in benefiting from cost cutting. Both ended on a firmer than average note for the sector.

Among companies reporting results, Stanwood Radio were greatly upset by the forecast of a big trading loss and slumped 14p to 10p after touching 4p at one point. The market was also disappointed by Rugby Cement, off 2p to 76p, but both AP Cement and Tunnel stayed firm at 194p. Cope Allmann rose 2½p to 44p after a forecast of a second-half recovery while another forecast, from Lesney, was enough to boost the price of 4p 35p. Metro 31p traded firmly in sympathy. Results also helped Bronx Engineering and back in mines, tin and coppers also made headway.

Latest dividends

Company (and par values)	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
T. F. & J. H. Braine (25p) Fin	2.28	2.12	—	3.25	2.96
Bronx Eng (10p) Fin	1.9	1.8	10/5	2.56	2.4
Crossley Building (25p) Fin	2.0	1.8	—	3.75	3.52
Iste of Man (20p) Fin	1.5	1.0	—	1.5	1.0
C. H. Johnson (25p) Fin	1.5	1.5	—	1.5	2.1
Lambert Howarth (20p) Fin	1.76	1.65	27/4	2.61	2.45
Patenting Rubber (10p) Fin	1.74	1.63	—	2.22	2.08
Rugby Portland Fin	1.47	1.38	—	2.83	2.65
Sangoma Weston (50p) Fin	6.3	6.3	—	6.3	6.3

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54.

Stanwood shares slump on loss warning

Down went the shares in Stanwood Radio from 24p to 10p after hitting 4p on a warning by the board that the group made a trading loss of around £300,000 last year.

The full results will not be available for about two weeks, but the loss, which will compare with a loss of £22,000 the year before, is struck after depreciation of about £1.5m. The group, in which Electronic Rentals has a large stake, has evidently been caught by the slump in colour television sales and rentals.

The management is to be strengthened by the appointment of Mr John Spindlow, chairman of the building and lighting company John M. Newton, to the board.

The directors have been depreciating colour equipment over a longer period.

Bronx again at peak

Going well at half time, Bronx Engineering Holdings ended the year to end-November with peak profits for the sixth year running.

On a turnover up from £6.7m to £8.5m, pre-tax profits advanced 30 per cent to £577,000. Earnings a share moved from 6.6p to 8.8p. The total payout rises from 3.5p to 3.9p.

Further losses from John Stephen

Fashion pioneer John Stephen of London is going through a bad patch. In the year to August 31, losses before tax rose from £152,000 to £222,000 and sales fell from £1.9m to £1.4m. The net loss rose from £133,000 to £220,000.

Since the year-end the company has recovered about

£200,000 from the sale of "unprofitable" units. Another £50,000 is due when various other sales are completed. During the year the company revealed its properties and the surplus of £263,000 was transferred to reserves.

Refinancing losses from the acquisition of the Gary Elliott group, the board has written off £260,000 worth of goodwill. This is included in an extraordinary debit of £360,000, against £58,000.

Sangamo slows but tops £1m

Sangamo Weston, the electric machine and apparatus group, doubled profits in the six months to last June but it indicated last October that profits in the full year to December 31 would by no means grow as fast.

Even so a 48 per cent increase is respectable. But pre-tax profits finished at £1.08m—the first time £1m was beaten. Turnover for the year advanced from £8.86m to £9.67m. The dividend is 9.7p gross against 9.6p.

By the end of the first half year the level of orders, particularly for time switches and industrial instruments, had deteriorated. This in turn pointed to lower profits in the closing months.

W of England higher

Having seen its profits for the six months to December 31 rise from £216,000 to a record £349,000 before tax, The West of England Trust is looking for a substantial increase in profits over the £551,000 brought in last time.

Mr Ernest Harbottle, the chairman, takes this view after considering the improvement in

both the financial and other sectors of the business. Earnings a share are up from 0.74p to 1.12p while the dividend is raised from 0.74p to 0.85p gross.

Thomas Nationwide

Overseas diversification has helped Thomas Nationwide Transport. Pre-tax profits went up from \$45.8m to \$46.7m in the half year to end December. Sales were \$166.5m against \$156.1m. But the dividend is 4c a share again.

Mercantile Credits

Mercantile Credits is offering \$Auss30m debentures from March 15. Terms and rates are as follows—at call after three months 9½ per cent, one year 11 per cent, 18 months 11½ per cent, two years 12½ per cent, three years 13½ per cent, five years 14½ per cent, all at par. The company said the issue will provide additional funds to finance demand for the group's services.

Lambert & Howarth clobbered by tax

The pre-tax profits of shoe and slipper maker Lambert & Howarth Group went up a bit last year but net profits fell sharply after heavier tax. On a turnover up from £10.5m to £11.8m pre-tax profits rose from £503,000 to £511,000. But after tax up from £168,000 to £238,000, net profits dived £61,000 to £274,000. Earnings a share fell from 10.9p to 8.9p. The total dividend is 4.02p gross against 3.73p.

Foreign and Colonial

The consolidated assets less current liabilities of the Foreign and Colonial Investment Trust increased from £79.7m to £132.2m in 1975.

Consolidated net assets per share increased by 80 per cent, from 93p to 167p. Since the year-end, the trust has taken up new stocks issued by London and Scottish Marine Oil and Scottish Canadian Oil and Transportation. The total cost of supporting this North Sea investment will amount to £1.9m.

Mediterranean rights

Club Mediterranean, the holiday resort group, is to seek approval to lift its capital from 53.4m to 62.3m francs through a one-for-six rights issue. The new shares would be eligible for dividend payments since last November 1, when its financial year began—AP-DJ.

Ultramar's rights

Ultramar, the London-registered oil group operating largely in North America, advises shareholders in the document on its proposed £15.3m rights issue that this year "it may be difficult to achieve the record profits of 1975".

The 15.3m 7 per cent convertible redeemable preference shares of £1 each which Ultramar is issuing at par by way of rights in the ratio of 3 for every 20 ordinary shares held will be convertible into ordinary stock in the ratio of 10 for every 19 preference shares. These terms are equivalent to a conversion price of 190p against a present stock market price of 162½p. Meanwhile the 7 per cent net coupon on the convertible preference shares offers a gross yield of 10.77 per cent to United Kingdom resident taxpayers, including the associated tax credit.

Veba payout cut after big oil loss

Though it lost DM460m (£93.8m) on its mineral oil activities, Veba, the West German energy group, showed a profit in 1975, writes Peter Norman from Bonn. The group's chief executive, Herr Rudolf Von Bennigsen-Foerder, said that after tax and payments to minority interests group profits fell to a provisional DM152m from DM227m in 1974.

The West German Federal Government, which owns around 40 per cent of Veba, and the estimated 1.2 million small shareholders in the company, will get a reduced dividend of 12 per cent, against 15 per cent. On January 1, 1975, the Gelsenberg energy concern was fully incorporated into the Veba Group, forming the largest West German corporation in terms of turnover. Accordingly, sales to third parties rose by 40.7 per cent to DM25,424m last year, from DM18,064m the year before.

Herr Von Bennigsen-Foerder said the company will cut back its losses.

ITT on the upswing

Earnings of International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation increased in the fourth quarter of 1975 and have remained on the upswing in 1976, reversing the pattern that produced a decline in results for the full year of 1975, Mr Harold Geneen, ITT chairman and chief executive, announced.

In the fourth quarter, ITT's earnings rose to \$110m or 88 cents per equivalent common share, a 21 per cent increase over the same period of 1974. Sales for the fourth quarter of 1975 were \$3,100m compared with \$3,000m in 1974.

Alcan Aluminium

Alcan Aluminium, of Montreal, reports a "definite improvement" in price trends and expected sales for 1976, during the past few weeks.

Mr Nathaniel V. Davis, chairman, warned shareholders, however, that "this improvement is not occurring on a uniform basis and some areas are extremely weak. Nevertheless, the overall tone seems to indicate we are now entering a period of healthier business and marketing conditions which we hope will be sustained".

Overseas

Fourth-quarter loss for Hudson Bay Mining

Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co. of Toronto, report that preliminary unaudited figures indicate net earnings of \$14,771,000, equal to \$1.48 per share, for 1975. The comparable figures for 1974 on a restated basis are \$44,968,000, or \$4.52 per share.

Gross sales totalled \$259,634,000 for 1975, compared with \$217,210,000 for 1974, on a restated basis. A loss was incurred for the fourth quarter of 1975 of \$1,593,000 or 16 cents per share, compared with a profit of \$9,213,000, or 92 cents per share, in 1974, on a restated basis. Gross sales during the quarter totalled \$81,458,000 compared with \$55,926,000 for the same period of 1974.

Granges slumps

The external sales of Granges in 1975 fell to \$1,059m (1974: \$550), and the operating profit after depreciation slumped to 71m (618). The operating profit includes estimated price rises of about 9.8m (165) on the inventories with which the year began. Net earnings after taxes were 6.50 p per share (41), the mean figure for the past five-year period being SKR 18 (20).

\$100m loan for Poland

Agreement has been reached for a \$100m (£55m) Euro-currency loan to Bank Handlowy, Poland. This will be part of the financing package for a PVC turn-key complex being built at Wloclawek, Poland. The loan has been syndicated under the management of Lloyds Bank International, with Bankers Trust International, Chase Manhattan and United California Bank Co-managers. Co-managers are First International Bankshares, London & Continental Bankers and Toronto Dominion Bank.

Occidental earnings should approach 1975

Earnings of Occidental Petroleum in 1976 should approach those of the previous year in spite of what President Joseph E. Baird called "divergent trends" in its major lines of business.

Speaking at a recent meeting of the Independent Analysts Society of Chicago, Mr Baird said that the corporation's profit was expected to improve in the current year against 1975's low levels. Its Hoover Chemical Division should report moderately higher earnings.

SKF

Financial Statement

SKF Group sales for the twelve months ending 31st December 1975 were 6,851 million Swedish kronor (Skr) compared with Skr 6,900 million for 1974. Group income before provisions and taxes amounted to Skr 567 million (802 m) equivalent to 8.3 per cent of turnover.

The turnover figure includes Skr 185.4 million attributable to The Sheffield Twist Drill and Steel Company Ltd (STDS) and Société Anonyme de Recherches de Mécanique Appliquée (SARMA) which were acquired in 1975. Income includes Skr 7.15 million generated by these companies after their acquisition by SKF.

Announcing the figures, Group Managing Director Lemnart Johansson said that turnover largely reflected the decrease in world industrial production. 1976 sales were expected to increase but income was expected to be lower than that for 1975. More accurate forecasts would be given at the time of the shareholders meeting when the January/April results would also be available.

The Board and the Managing Director proposed a dividend of Skr 4.50 per share. This is equivalent to Skr 4.48 for the preceding year, taking into account the rights and bonus shares issued in 1975.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in Göteborg on 26th May.

	Financial Year to 31st December 1975		Financial Year to 31st December 1974	
	mkr	%	mkr	%
Sales	6,851.4	100.0	6,900.2	100.0
Cost of goods sold	4,615.0	67.3	4,591.8	66.5
Selling and administrative expenses	1,047.7	15.3	979.1	14.2
Operating income before depreciation	1,190.7	17.4	1,329.5	19.3
Depreciation	442.2	6.5	410.7	6.0
Operating income after depreciation	748.5	10.9	918.6	13.3
Financial income and expenses-net	-154.8		-132.3	
Sundry income and expenses-net	-26.4		15.7	
Income before provisions and taxes	567.3	8.3	802.0	11.6
Provisions	-105.4		-250.6	
Taxes	-186.5		-265.8	
Minority interest in income	-7.5		-12.7	
Net Income	268.1		294.9	
Investment in plant and property	640.1		425.7	
Cost calculated depreciation*	585.7		477.5	
Average number of employees	61,019		61,005	
Calculated income in kronor per share in the parent company**	12.65		20.25	

*Calculated on replacement values as from 1975.

**Operating income after deductions of cost calculated depreciation, reduced by financial income and expenses (net), less taxes 46%. The 1975 calculation is based on the number of shares after the rights and bonus issues.

Union Corporation Group

THE GROOTVLEI PROPRIETARY MINES LTD.
MARIEVALE CONSOLIDATED MINES LTD.

In the annual statements to shareholders of Grootvlei and Marievale, Mr. L. W. P. van den Bosch, the chairman, made the following points:

- * The gold price is unlikely to increase materially in the immediate future but in the long run it will reflect the depreciation in the purchasing power of paper currencies.
- * Although the average price received for gold increased, considerably higher costs and working lower grade ore led to a fall in working profits.
- * Excellent safety records continue to be maintained.
- * Based on current gold price (R3650 per kg. — US \$130 per oz) the remaining life of Grootvlei is now estimated at 6 years and that of Marievale between 4 and 5 years.
- * Efforts will be concentrated on maintaining profitability by increasing productivity in an attempt to combat further rises in costs.

Results for the year ended 31st December, 1975
(compared with results for the previous year)

	Tons milled '000	Gold produced kg.	Net profit R'000	Dividends cents per share	Ore Reserves Main Reef tons '000	Kimberley Reef tons '000
GROOTVLEI	1,899 (1,636)	5,142 (5,417)	3,387 (3,878)	20 (32)	2,400 (4,500)	3,300 (5,500)
MARIEVALE	1,070 (1,124)	3,985 (4,752)	2,608 (4,082)	42 (84)	400 (1,800)	1,000 (2,200)

Ore reserves calculated at a gold price of R3500 per kg.

Copies of the full reports of the companies (each of which is incorporated in the Republic of South Africa) for the year ended 31st December, 1975 are available from the London Secretaries, Union Corporation (U.K.) Limited, 95 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7BS.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

Copper and tin prices firm

Both copper and tin prices were well maintained on the London market yesterday.

In copper, cash wire bars put on 52.25 from Friday's close to 52.25 and three months was 23.50 at 52.25. Dealers reported that the currency situation remained the dominant influence.

Currency considerations, plus a stable drop last week in warehouse stocks, were sustaining influences with tin and standard cash rose 15 on Friday's close to 53.75 while three months went 50 to 53.11.50.

COPPER—Afternoon—Cash wire bars, 25.25; three months, 23.50; standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

TIN—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

LEAD—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

ZINC—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

ALUMINUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

NICKEL—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

SILVER—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

GOLD—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

PLATINUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

PALLADIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

RHODIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

IRIDIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

OSMIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

COBALT—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

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TANTALUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

ARSENIC—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

ANTIMONY—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

GERMANIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

SELENIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

TELLURUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

BISMUTH—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

INDIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

THALLIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

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TANTALUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

ARSENIC—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

ANTIMONY—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

GERMANIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

SELENIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

TELLURUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

BISMUTH—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

INDIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

THALLIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

LEAD—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

Commodities

Copper and tin prices firm

Both copper and tin prices were well maintained on the London market yesterday.

In copper, cash wire bars put on 52.25 from Friday's close to 52.25 and three months was 23.50 at 52.25. Dealers reported that the currency situation remained the dominant influence.

Currency considerations, plus a stable drop last week in warehouse stocks, were sustaining influences with tin and standard cash rose 15 on Friday's close to 53.75 while three months went 50 to 53.11.50.

COPPER—Afternoon—Cash wire bars, 25.25; three months, 23.50; standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

TIN—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

LEAD—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

ZINC—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

ALUMINUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

NICKEL—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

SILVER—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

GOLD—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

PLATINUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

PALLADIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

RHODIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

IRIDIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

OSMIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

COBALT—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

NIOBIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

TANTALUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

ARSENIC—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

ANTIMONY—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

GERMANIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

SELENIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

TELLURUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

BISMUTH—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

INDIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

THALLIUM—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

LEAD—Afternoon—Standard cash, 53.75; three months, 53.11.50.

Foreign Exchange

Withdrawal of the French franc from the European joint float resulted in an initial de facto devaluation in the currency of near 5 per cent, and immediately diverted pressure on the pound to other remaining members of the float system.

The Belgian and Danish currencies needed extensive support within the European joint float.

This was despite the abandonment of the monetary arrangement which grouped the Belgian and Luxembourg francs and the Dutch guilder in a narrow band.

The franc recovered to 4.5650/5750 against the dollar, a 2.3 per cent depreciation from Friday.

Sterling closed at 1.5320 against the dollar, down 35 points, a 2.2 per cent depreciation from Friday.

Gold rose 50 cents an ounce to \$134.00.

Spot Position of Sterling

Market rates: New York 1.5320, London 1.5320, Hong Kong 1.5320, Singapore 1.5320, etc.

Forward Levels

1 month: New York 1.5320, London 1.5320, Hong Kong 1.5320, Singapore 1.5320, etc.

Gold

Gold rose 50 cents an ounce to \$134.00.

CANADIAN PACIFIC

Montreal—Canadian Pacific reported final net income for 1975 of \$174.3m, a 24.9 per cent increase on 1974.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

Discount market

Funds were in ample supply yesterday. Nevertheless, the small surplus was late showing and the Bank of England was asked for help.

This assistance was given on a small scale by direct purchase of Treasury bills, though it was clearly not necessary as money flowed readily in the late stages and brought rates right down to closing levels in the 3 to 4 per cent area.

Lenders had tried for 81 per cent at the outset, but the houses stood back and waited.

Before long they were picking up balances at 71 per cent, money came easily and the rates trend was downward from then on.

Money Market Rates

1 month: 71 per cent, 3 months: 71 per cent, 6 months: 71 per cent, 12 months: 71 per cent.

Recent Issues

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

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1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

Russia again major sugar buyer and feelers out for more grain

Once again, the Soviet Union has entered the world sugar market as a major buyer, say C. Czarnikow, the London brokers. On top of reported purchases of Indian and EEC sugar comes firm news of a deal with the Philippines.

But despite the Filipino sale of 400,000 tonnes of sugar to the Soviet Union—the biggest single deal to any country outside the United States—this is a reduction of rather less than a third in the sugar "mountain" which has accumulated in the Philippines.

Some 1.5 million long tons have been stuffed into every available building around Bacolod city, in the sugar bowl, and some of this stockpile has been slowly rotting.

At the end of last year some 15,000 tons were sold in the Philippines with the Soviet Union and there have been reports in February that some 150,000 tons have been sold to a United States refiner, although it is not certain whether this was a firm contract or the subject of a letter of intent.

What price the Soviet Union is paying for the Philippine sugar has not been revealed. Recently the United States market price has been around 15 cents a lb, the lowest level for two years.

In Manila, a spokesman for the Philippines Exchange said that shipment on board Soviet freighters of about 15,000 tons would begin in 10 days and continue through May. It is known that Sovranch, the London chartering brokers for the Soviet Union, have been inquiring for 12,000 tonnes of sugar.

Mr. N. D. Foster has been made a director of the John Foster & Co. Ltd. in succession to Mr. W. R. Foster who has retired from the board.

Capacity of ports the key question

Apparently the Soviet Union has been making inquiries about additional purchases of United States grain, according to Mr. Richard Bell, the United States Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, although he said that he did not know of any recent sales or serious contract negotiations.

Wall Street

New York, March 15.—Blue chips and high priced blue chips fell in New York Stock Exchange sharply lower near mid-session this morning. The Dow-Jones industrial average fell more than 10 points to around 97.17.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

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1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

1975 Low Bid Offer Yield

1975 High Bid Offer Yield

Commodities

According to Reuters, Cuban delegates to

side

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES SHARE INDEX				
The Times Share Index for the date June 1, 1964 against the index of 1964=100				
	Index No.	Difference	% Change	Index of 1964=100
	Latest			
The Times Industrial Average	188.71	5.90	3.18	192.61
Largest Co's.	189.85	6.00	3.22	193.85
Government	175.72	5.72	3.28	181.44
Capital Goods	172.73	6.11	3.54	178.84
Consumer Goods	187.74	5.79	3.09	193.53
Store Shares	111.30	4.73	4.33	116.03
Largest Financial	230.18	5.65	2.46	235.83
Largest Financial and Industrial	172.57	5.78	3.35	178.35
Commodity Shares	214.61	4.45	2.08	219.06
Gold Mining				
Hard Shares	267.07	6.84	2.56	273.91
Industrial				
Electronics stocks	212.28	7.67	3.62	220.95
Industrial				
Preference Stocks	247.72	11.02	4.45	258.74
25% War Loan	256	18.87	7.37	274.87

A record of The Times Industrial Index is given below:-

Date	Index	% Change	Index of 1964=100
1961-12-11	139.47	-1.02 (7.2)	143.96
1976	171.30	2.30 (1.6)	175.80
1977	175.72	2.58 (1.5)	180.20
1978	189.85	8.07 (4.6)	194.26
1979	187.74	-2.11 (1.1)	192.24
1980	188.71	0.97 (0.5)	193.22
1981	188.71	0.00 (0.0)	193.22

Flat interest paid

Salerooms and Antiques

Sotheby's

FOUNDED 1744

34-35 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON W1A 2AA. TEL: 01-493 8060

Tuesday, 16th March, at 11 am
THE MAGNIFICENT BOTANICAL
LIBRARY OF THE STIFTUNG FÜR
BOTANIK, VAUDEL LIECHTENSTEIN
Part 3: Q-Z and addenda
collected by the late Arnold Vetsch
Cat. (24 illustrations, 9 in colour) £4

Tuesday, 16th March, at 11 am
CONTINENTAL POTTERY AND PORCELAIN
Cat. (72 illustrations, 2 in colour) £1-25

Tuesday, 16th March, at 2.30 pm
BRITISH AND EUROPEAN FEWTER
Cat. (4 plates) 30p

Wednesday, 17th March, at 11 am and 2.30 pm
MODERN BRITISH DRAWINGS,
PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURE
including the property of Her Royal Highness
The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon,
G.C.V.O., the Rt Hon. the Lord Simon of
Glaisdale, Sir John and Lady Macleod, and Anne,
Duchess of Rutland
Cat. (43 plates, 3 in colour) £1-10

Thursday, 18th March, at 11 am
MEDIEVAL, RENAISSANCE
AND BAROQUE WORKS OF ART
including the property of
Mr. William E. Wilshire III and
Leo Baron von Savigny
Cat. (84 illustrations, 3 in colour) £1-75

Thursday, 18th March, at 11 am
ENGLISH AND
FOREIGN SILVER AND PLATE
including the property of Lady Sanderson
Cat. (4 plates) 30p

Friday, 19th March, at 11 am
WORKS OF ART, RUGS AND CARPETS
including the property of Peter Nelson-Billy, Esq.
Cat. 20p

Monday, 22nd March, and the following day,
at 11 am
THE WELL KNOWN
COLLECTION OF PRINTED BOOKS
formed by late Dr. A. N. L. Munby, F.R.S.,
Litt. D., Fellow and Librarian of King's College,
Cambridge (sold by order of the Executors)
The First Folio: Bibliography
Cat. (2 plates) 65p



Thursday, 18th March, at 11 am
A late Gothic limewood relief of St. George,
Austrian or Bohemian, c. 1510, 65 cm. (25 1/2 inches)

Monday, 22nd March, at 11 am
GOOD CLOCKS, SCIENTIFIC
INSTRUMENTS AND WATCHES
including the property of Mr. Robert and
Miss Sarah Carruthers
Cat. (28 illustrations) 85p

Catalogues (post free) from 2 Merrington Road, London SW6 1RG Telephone: 01-813 3173

Representative in Scotland: John Robertson, 19 Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AH. Telephone: 031-226 5438

Tuesday, 23rd March, at 11 am
CHINESE CERAMICS AND WORKS OF ART
including the property of Colonel P.
Curt-Woodley and Mrs. Coulthart, O.B.E.
Cat. 21p

SOOTHEY'S BELGRAVIA,
19 MOTCOMBE STREET,
LONDON SW1X 8LB. TEL: 01-235 4311

Thursday, 18th March, at 10.30 am
FOT LIDS, FAIRINGS, COSS,
STAFFORDSHIRE WARES
AND PORCELAIN FIGURES
Cat. (30 illustrations) 30p

Friday, 19th March, at 11 am and 2.30 pm
PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES
AND RELATED MATERIAL
Cat. (119 illustrations, 1 in colour) 75p

Tuesday, 23rd March, at 11 am
ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS, MODELS,
CASTINGS AND STAINED GLASS
including the property of Whitfield Glass Ltd.
(formerly James Powell & Sons)
Cat. (119 illustrations, 1 in colour) 30p

SOOTHEY PARK BERNET
SOUTH AFRICA (PTY) LTD. AT THE
CARLTON HOTEL, JOHANNESBURG

Tuesday, 16th March, at 10 am and 2.30 pm
AFRICANA AND
OTHER SOUTH AFRICAN BOOKS
Illustrated cat. £1-75

Wednesday, 17th March, at 2 pm
IMPORTANT AFRICANA AND
SOUTH AFRICAN PAINTINGS,
WATERCOLOURS AND SCULPTURE
Illustrated cat. £1-75

Thursday, 18th March, at 11.30 am
RUGS AND CARPETS
Illustrated cat. £1-75

Thursday, 18th March, at 2.30 pm
IMPORTANT CARPETS
ENGLISH AND DUTCH SILVER
Illustrated cat. £1-75

Christie's



8 King Street, St. James's, London SW1Y 6QT. Tel: (01) 839 5660 Telex: 916429 Telegrams: CHRISTART London S.W.1.



Portrait of the painter Felipe Liano,
by Francisco Goya y Lucientes, bust
length, inscribed 'Felipe Liano
Pinel' cat. chalk, 17.1 cm. by
12.3 cm. To be sold on Tuesday,
March 30th in a sale of Fine Old
Master Drawings.

Tuesday, 23rd March, at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Wednesday, 24th March, at 11 am
PRINTED BOOKS, CATALOGUE 35p post paid.

Thursday, 25th March, at 11 am
English and Continental Oak, Pewter
and Metalwork. The Properties of
the Earl of Harwood, Sir Terence
Ratigan, C.B.E. The late Dr. Duncan
Morrison and others. Catalogue
(4 plates) 45p post paid.

Sales begin at 11 a.m. unless otherwise stated, and are subject to the conditions printed in the relevant catalogues.

Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 3BS. Tel: (01) 581 2331.

Tuesday, March 16th at 12 noon,
East of Kent and Wines for Every-
day Drinking.

Wednesday, March 17th at 10.30
a.m.
Furniture, Carpets and Objects of
Art.

Christie's South Kensington is open every Monday evening until 7 p.m.

York Office: Nicholas Brooksbank, 46 Bootham, York YO3 7BZ Tel: York 30911

Edinburgh Office: Michael Clayton, 48 Melville Street, Edinburgh EH3 7HH Tel: (031) 225 4757

Irish Office: Desmond Fitz-Gerald, The Knight of Glin, Glin Castle, Glin, Co. Limerick, Tel: Glin 44

West Country Office: Richard de Pelet, Monmouth Lodge, Yeaton, Templecombe, Somerset. Tel: Templecombe 518

ALL SALES ON VIEW TWO DAYS PRIOR

Tuesday, 16th March at 11 am
ANTIQUE & MODERN SILVER
& PLATE

Wednesday, 17th March at 11 am
WATERCOLOURS AND DRAWINGS
Catalogue 35p

Thursday, 18th March at 11 am
ENGLISH & CONTINENTAL
FURNITURE & ORIENTAL RUGS

Friday, 19th March at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Saturday, 20th March at 11 am
PRINTED BOOKS, CATALOGUE 35p post paid.

Sunday, 21st March at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Monday, 22nd March at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Tuesday, 23rd March at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Wednesday, 24th March at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Thursday, 25th March at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Friday, 26th March at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Saturday, 27th March at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Sunday, 28th March at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Monday, 29th March at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Tuesday, 30th March at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Wednesday, 31st March at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Thursday, 1st April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Friday, 2nd April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Saturday, 3rd April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Sunday, 4th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Monday, 5th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Tuesday, 6th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Wednesday, 7th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Thursday, 8th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Friday, 9th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Saturday, 10th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Sunday, 11th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Monday, 12th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Tuesday, 13th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Wednesday, 14th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Thursday, 15th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Friday, 16th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Saturday, 17th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Sunday, 18th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Monday, 19th April at 11 am
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CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Tuesday, 20th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Wednesday, 21st April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Thursday, 22nd April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Friday, 23rd April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Saturday, 24th April at 11 am
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CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Sunday, 25th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Monday, 26th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Tuesday, 27th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Wednesday, 28th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
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Thursday, 29th April at 11 am
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CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Friday, 30th April at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Saturday, 1st May at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Sunday, 2nd May at 11 am
FINE JAPANESE DRAWINGS, ART
CATALOGUE (14 plates) 65p post paid.

Phillips

Today, 11 a.m.
Good English Furniture, Porcelain,
Works of Art, Carpets.

Today, 11.30 a.m.
Sculpture & Models

Today, 1.30 p.m.
Books, Clocks, Jewellery

Wed, March 17, 11 a.m.
English, Continental, Caricatures

Thurs, March 18, 10 a.m.
Furniture, etc., at Marylebone

Thurs, March 18, 11 a.m.
Porcelain, Glass

Fri, March 19, 11 a.m.
Paintings, Sculpture, etc.

Friday, March 19, 11 a.m.
Silver & Plate

Monday, March 22, 11 a.m.
Antique, Modern, Furniture, Works
of Art, Carpets

Monday, March 22, 2 p.m.
18th Century Paintings

Tue, March 23, 11 a.m.
Clocks & Scientific Instr.

Wed, March 23, 2 p.m.
Clocks & Scientific Instr.

Phillips: The Old Manx House, W. Midlands

Phillips: The Old Manx House, W. Midlands

Phillips: The Old Manx House, W. Midlands

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Phillips: The Old Manx House, W. Midlands

Phillips: The Old Manx House, W. Midlands

Harrods Estate Offices

FINE ART AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS

Wednesday, 17th March, 10 a.m.
SECONDARY SALE: View each
sale today.

Thursday, 18th March, 10 a.m.
OBJECTS OF ART, METAL-
WARE, PORCELAIN AND
FURNITURE.

Friday, 19th March, 10 a.m.
OBJECTS OF ART, METAL-
WARE, PORCELAIN AND
FURNITURE.

ARUNDEL TERRACE, BARNES, LONDON, S.W.13
Tel: 01-748 2739

by Hammermill Bridge free parking for 200 cars

Fortnightly specialised sales: 15th April: Oil paintings, water-
colours and prints; 5th May: Silver and plate.

Catalogues when ready 30p incl. postage.

by Hammermill Bridge free parking for 200 cars

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Catalogues when ready 30p incl. postage.

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